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Soldier killed by Lebanon roadside bomb

AN IDF soldier was killed and another moderately wounded in a roadside bomb attack in the western sector of the security zone yesterday afternoon.

Avi Abuksis, from Dimona, a 20-year-old member of a Nahal unit, was killed in the attack. He is survived by his father Yitzhak, his mother Haviva and two younger brothers.

Hizbullah, in an announcement on its radio station in Lebanon that was preceded by martial music, claimed responsibility for the attack.

The organization said its members had planted a large explosive

device which they detonated alongside an IDF patrol. The attack occurred near Ras-Bayyada village not far from the coast in an area normally considered relatively safe, especially from attacks by Hizbullah.

The fact that Hizbullah activists were able to move in the area and plant a very large and apparently complex explosive device is in itself an achievement.

There are two South Lebanese

Army positions and an IDF post in the vicinity of the area in which the attack occurred.

The IDF troops were on operational duties when the device was detonated.

The wounded soldier was treated in the field and later evacuated by helicopter to Haifa's Rambam Hospital. Deputy Hospital Director Dr. Zvi Ben-Ishai said the soldier, 20, was suffering from serious eye injuries caused either by

DAVID RUDGE

bullet wounds or shrapnel.

He said the soldier would undergo an operation in the ophthalmology department.

IDF gunners blasted suspected terrorist targets north of the zone in response to the attack. There were no reports of any Hizbullah casualties.

In a separate incident around the same time, the Amal Shi'ite

movement claimed responsibility for attacking an SLA position in the Shomriya region in the central sector of the zone.

The position came under mortar fire, although there were no casualties among the SLA troops and no damage was caused. SLA gunners returned fire.

In another incident, according to reports in Lebanon, three explosions occurred in the vicinity of an IDF position east of Talousa

village, also in the central sector of the zone.

There were also reports of shooting in the Souqud area, in the eastern sector of the zone, but again no casualties were reported.

Meanwhile, Hizbullah's politburo chief, Hussein Khalil, denied reports that the organization has been using Israeli-made mortar rounds.

The charges were first leveled by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Thursday, when he claimed

that mortar rounds that exploded in the Galilee on the day of the Jordan-Israel peace signing ceremony were of Israeli manufacture.

They had apparently been supplied to Iran in the days of the Shah, and were later transferred to Hizbullah fighters in Lebanon. There were also reports arms were supplied to Iran during the arms-for-hostages deal during the Reagan administration.

Khalil, however, maintained that Rabin was trying to "boost the sagging morale of his soldiers after our recent successes by trying to damage the reputation of Iran and Hizbullah."

Christopher: No redeployment unless PLO can ensure security

'Status quo with Syria is not an answer'

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAEL should not be expected to redeploy its troops throughout the territories during the second phase of the interim agreement unless the PLO ensures security in areas it now controls, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher said yesterday upon arriving here from Damascus.

At the same time, Christopher said any delay in the IDF's redeployment from Arab population centers should be reached in negotiations with the PLO.

Israel and the PLO resumed talks in Cairo yesterday.

Christopher's statement comes at a key juncture, as the cabinet is convening today in special session to continue the pivotal debate it began Sunday on whether Israel will seek to modify the Oslo accord.

At least half of the cabinet ministers have already gone on record favoring modifications, but are divided on what those alterations should be, as they seek to reconcile IDF redeployment and protecting settlements.

Some ministers favor canceling redeployment altogether during the interim period; while others, at least some Jewish settlements in the territories should be relocated, and at least partial redeployment should proceed.

"Unless there's security, it's clear that the other commitments cannot be met."

Christopher told reporters at Ben-Gurion Airport. "It's something that'll have to be discussed between the parties." Asked whether Israel would be justified in delaying a troop withdrawal, Christopher said: "That's a decision that'll have to be confronted by Israel over the next weeks and months."

Christopher meets Arafat this afternoon in Gaza, after holding informal talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin at his residence this morning. The secretary of state briefed Rabin on his four-and-a-half hours of talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad in Damascus. Christopher is planning to end his quick visit to the region tomorrow morning and return to the US.

Only Israel, and not the US, will judge what security guarantees it deems adequate as part of any peace deal with Syria, Christopher said last night.

While making clear that the US will not pressure Israel, Christopher said the status quo between the two countries is not tenable over time. "The status quo is not an answer to violence and terror, it will only invite more terror," he said.

Last week, Assad said publicly he preferred the status quo to Israeli terms for peace, which he called "impossible."

In Jerusalem, a senior Clinton administration official denied last night

that Christopher will seek to revive the idea of dispatching Israeli and Syrian military officials to discuss security in Washington, as a part of ongoing quiet talks between Israel's chief negotiator Itamar Rabinovich and Syrian ambassador to the US Walid Mualeem.

At the same time, the senior administration official insisted that the "gaps between Israel and Syria are narrowing," but did not elaborate.

Speaking to reporters en route from Damascus, a senior Clinton administration official suggested that Assad felt frustrated by Israeli terms for peace, which the Syrian leader believes exceed "objective requirements."

Christopher had carried a proposal to Damascus presented by Rabin during his White House meeting with President Bill Clinton two weeks ago. On Sunday, Clinton held a half-hour phone conversation with Assad, also briefing him on his meeting with Rabin.

The senior US official did indicate that the session with Assad included a discussion on security arrangements. He said early warning stations, limited forces zones, and monitors which apparently would ensure that the terms of peace are being kept were raised in that context.

The official denied that the idea of US troop deployment on the Golan was raised, and noted that the Syrian

leader still prefers UN to US troops on the Golan.

On a related security issue, the senior US official noted that there has been "some reduction" in weaponry moving across Syrian territory and into the hands of Hizbullah in Lebanon.

When asked by reporters, the official complained about the recent move by the European Union (EU) to lift the eight-year-old arms embargo against Syria last week.

The official also said Christopher suggested to Assad that he publicly condemn terrorism, just as he did privately during the Syrian leader's meeting with Clinton in Damascus. However, Assad gave Christopher no commitment, the official indicated.

Meanwhile, Intelligence Branch chief Maj.-Gen. Uri Saguy said yesterday he had not changed his assessment that Assad genuinely wants peace on condition that he receives all of the Golan Heights.

Saguy reportedly told the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Assad was being crafty, acting as if he was in no hurry to reach a settlement in order to wrest as many concessions from Israel as possible, a parliamentary source said after the meeting.

Saguy also estimated that peace with Syria would have to be achieved this year because the US government will not make commitments during the 1996 election year.

"Golan deployment possible", Page 2



US Secretary of State Warren Christopher speaks to reporters upon arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport last night. (Ailon Ron/Israel Sun)

Jehovah's Witness to Supreme Court: Allow me to refuse blood transfusion

EVELYN GORDON

IN what is likely to be a precedent-setting case, a member of Jehovah's Witnesses yesterday appealed to the Supreme Court against a lower court's decision that she could be forced to undergo a blood transfusion, which violates her religious beliefs.

While the Supreme Court has ruled before on the right of terminally ill patients to refuse care, it has never dealt with the rights of non-terminal patients in this area.

Ella Coritani, 31, was hospitalized in November with intestinal ulcers, and the doctors recommended an operation. Coritani agreed, but stipulated that under no account was she to be given a blood transfusion, even if her life was in danger. Jehovah's Witnesses believe it is better to die than to accept a transfusion, based on the biblical injunction against eating blood.

The hospital objected to this condition, and the case went to the Haifa District Court, which ruled that Coritani could refuse the transfusion as long as she was conscious, but if she were unconscious, as is always the case with

an operation requiring general anesthesia, the hospital could perform a transfusion if necessary. Alternatively, the court said, she could leave the hospital.

Following this ruling, the operation was performed, no transfusion was needed, and Coritani was released. However, she is appealing the decision in case the situation recurs.

The appeal, filed by attorney Natty Halpin, argued that the obligation to obtain a patient's consent for invasive procedures must include the right to refuse treatment. Otherwise, this obligation is empty of content.

This principle has been upheld by the US Supreme Court and other courts in England and Canada. The US Supreme Court's decision, Halpin noted, was based on the Fourth Amendment, whose protection of the right to life, liberty and property is very similar to section 2 of Israel's Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom.

The Haifa court's solution - forcing Coritani to choose be-

tween no care at all and the unwanted blood transfusion - has been ruled unacceptable in both the US and Canada, Halpin added.

When a patient of sound mind has expressed an opinion that he or she does not want a certain treatment even at the risk of death, Halpin argued, the doctor should not be able to ignore this instruction on the theory that if the patient was conscious at that moment, he might have changed his mind.

While the state does have an interest in preserving life, he continued, English and American courts have ruled that this does not outweigh the patient's right to refuse treatment, even in life-threatening situations.

"Freedom to differ is not limited to things that do not matter much," said one American verdict quoted in the appeal. "The test of its substance is the right to differ as to things that touch the heart of the existing order."

The Israeli Supreme Court has never dealt with this question (Continued on Page 2)

'Roil' family adds new chapter to soap opera

LONDON - The royal soap opera threatens to take the full *Dallas* route as Queen Elizabeth II goes drilling for oil beneath Windsor Castle.

News of a possible royal gusher came yesterday, punctuating a week that began with opposition politicians calling for a less flashy monarchy, and which could end with a divorce announcement.

The queen has given a Canadian oilman the go-ahead to drill in the grounds of the castle for what could be a giant oil bonanza for Britain.

The monarch, plagued by family splits and income tax demands from the government, will not earn a penny from the venture but

at least her view from the Norman landmark won't be spoiled.

Oilman Desmond Oswald, managing director of Canuk Exploration Ltd., has promised not to turn her back garden into a 1920s-style oil field studded with derricks.

Oswald said yesterday up to 100 million barrels of oil could be found. "That is a very large structure. It is one of the biggest onshore."

He said seismic studies indicate the likelihood of the field 300 meters beneath Windsor Castle, the queen's weekend home 30 km west of the capital. The queen has given permission to sink a well in her garden to test reserves.

"In any other location, it would have been tested years ago. But nobody previously has had the courage," said Oswald.

He said the £1 billion (\$1.5 billion) pool may be under the palace - but chances of raising commercially viable amounts are only one in eight.

Jobless rate drops to 7.5%

JOSE ROSENFELD

UNEMPLOYMENT continued dropping, reaching 7.5 percent in the third quarter of the year, as the number of jobless women fell 8.2%, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Unemployment stood at 7.8% in the second quarter and 8.2% in the previous quarter, bringing the nine month average to 7.8%, compared to 10.4% in the same period last year.

The pace of job creation slowed in the third quarter as the economy came closer to "full employment." There were only 11,700 new jobs created, a 0.6% increase in the number of employed workers over the previous quarter. By contrast, in each of the preceding four quarters, the number of new jobs jumped between 1.5% and 2%.

The slowdown in immigration which has limited the flow of skilled workers into the economy was reflected in the negligible 0.3% increase in the size of the country's labor force.

Mr. Christopher...

We asked the Israeli public:

"Must any agreement between Israel and Syria be dependent on resolving the issue of Israel's Missing Soldiers?"

77%

(Gallup Poll Nov. 1994)

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Shalikhshvili: Golan deployment possible

ALON PINKAS

THE US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. John Shalikhshvili, does not rule out the possibility of American troops being deployed on the Golan as part of a Syrian-Israeli agreement. However, he emphasized yesterday that it is too early to discuss the details of a US role.

Speaking to reporters at the Tze'elim training ground, Shalikhshvili said the US is committed to supporting the peace process.

"It's fair to say that it is much too early to discuss the specifics of how the US can support the process which it is committed to support," he said. The deployment of the Multinational and Observers Force in Sinai since 1979, in which 1,000 US troops serve, decreased hostilities between Israel and Egypt, he said.

In a meeting with Shalikhshvili yesterday morning, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Israel would not ask the US to dispatch troops to defend its borders, but will need American forces to monitor compliance with security components of an Israeli-Syrian peace agreement.

Rabin emphasized that the stage in which US military involvement may become an issue has not been reached yet. Rabin briefed Shalikhshvili on the perceived threats Israel is facing, and underscored the dangers of Islamic fundamentalism.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur, ministry Director-General David Ivry, and Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak

also attended the meeting. According to one participant, "the issue of Iran and Islamic extremism came up more than once."

Rabin also thanked Shalikhshvili for the continued US military support in providing Israel with a technological qualitative edge. As illustrations of the US's commitment to Israel's security, Rabin highlighted the 24 Apache attack helicopters, 10 Blackhawk helicopters, and 50 F-16 jets the US sent as part of a drawdown from its stockpiles, as well as support for the Arrow missile program.

Shalikhshvili was the guest yesterday morning of OC Ground Corps Command Maj.-Gen. Ze'ev Livne. In the IDF central

unit training center in Tze'elim, he observed a 40-minute, combined live-fire exercise which involved armor, artillery, infantry and Apache attack helicopters.

After the exercise, Shalikhshvili reviewed a display of weapons systems used in the IDF Ground Corps.

Accompanied by Barak, his deputy and chief-of-staff designate Maj.-Gen. Amnon Shohak, and OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine, Shalikhshvili later visited the Northern Command. He was briefed on Syria's military buildup and on Hizbullah activities in south Lebanon, and observed the Golan Heights by helicopter.

Shalikhshvili later visited Yad Vashem and laid a wreath on behalf of the US Armed Forces.

After 2 months, PA to answer extradition request

EVELYN GORDON

THE Palestinian Authority has acceded to all of Israel's requests to extradite ordinary criminal suspects, but has so far failed to extradite a single requested terrorist, according to a report released yesterday by the independent monitoring agency Peace Watch.

The PA is slated to give its first formal response to a request for suspected terrorists - in this case, Rajah and Amru Abu-Sita, wanted for the murder of Uri Megidish in 1993 - tomorrow, or just over two months after the request was submitted.

The two criminal suspects, however, were both handed over within a day or two of the request, said Peace Watch director Dan Polisar.

The Palestinians have so far not submitted any extradition requests to Israel. According to Palestinian Justice Minister Freil Abu-Middian, there simply have not been any relevant cases so far, Polisar said.

"At this stage, Peace Watch does not see [the failure to deliver suspected terrorists] as a violation of the agreement," Polisar stressed. Extradition requests, he explained, can often take months to be carried out, and Israel's first request was submitted only at the end of September.

However, he added, if the PA refuses to extradite the Abu-Sitas on the grounds that the murder was committed before the Cairo agreement was signed - the position taken by Abu-Middian - that would be a clear violation of the agreement.

Peace Watch legal advisor Amiram Bogot explained that while the agreement includes many limitations on extraditions - e.g. that only crimes punishable by at least seven years in prison

are extraditable - it says nothing about a time limitation.

The language of the agreement, Bogot added, clearly obligates compliance with all requests for the transfer of suspects.

Israel has so far submitted seven extradition requests, some formal and others informal (which are simpler to prepare, but also non-binding). Two of these were for ordinary criminals and these were answered almost immediately, the report said.

The other five are for suspected terrorists. Three of these are official requests: the one for the Abu-Sitas, one for the murderers of Shlomo Kapah and Gil Revah in Ramle in August, and one for the murder of Natalia Ivanov in Ashdod in September. A fourth official request is being prepared for the man who tried to murder Shaul David in Ramle in January. The other two, for the murderers of Yossi Zadani in March and Victor Shichman in September, are unofficial requests.

In addition, Amr Shkarallah Ahmad, wanted for the murder of his employer, Jerusalem restaurant owner David Alaluf, was transferred to Israel about two weeks ago. Peace Watch said it has not yet determined whether this was at the PA's initiative or at Israel's request. It is also unclear whether this was criminal or a terrorist act.

Organization spokesman Yossi Elad explained that extraditions are considered a crucial expression of cooperation between Israel and the PA, especially because for Israeli forces, unable to operate in Gaza and Jericho themselves, extradition "is virtually the only way to deter those who commit terror attacks against Israel."

Hussein to Netanyahu: We'll fight terrorism

SARAH HONIG

JORDAN'S King Hussein stressed to Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu his commitment to battle terrorism and to establish close economic ties with Israel. He told Netanyahu he plans to visit Israel soon.

Netanyahu visited the king and Crown Prince Hassan in Amman yesterday, and then was flown by Hassan to the border town of Karama, where Netanyahu fought as a soldier in 1968.

The Likud chairman was accompanied to Jordan by his aide, Shai Bazak, and by Dr. Dore Gold. The visit was to have begun a day earlier but was postponed and shortened due to heavy snowfall.

The first stop was Hassan's palace in Amman for a working lunch. Jordan's top political echelon took part, including Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali. Towards the end of the two-hour luncheon, Hussein arrived and spent an hour conversing with the entire group, and a further half-hour with Netanyahu and Prince Hassan alone.

The king was particularly interested in how the Likud views relations between Israel and Jordan, and stressed his gratification at the wide acceptance in Israel of the peace treaty with Jordan.

The fact that Netanyahu emphasized his support for the treaty was particularly meaningful, as his Jordanian interlocutors saw yesterday's Jerusalem Post report that opinion polls indicated a slight Netanyahu advantage over Rabin. Bazak told the Post that he had spoken to Jordanian officials about the poll and explained to them the political balance of power.

Netanyahu told the Post that he



Jordan's King Hussein speaks with opposition leader Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday in Amman.

felt "an openness for the Likud and even a community of interests. There was genuine warmth in the hospitality accorded us and very often a meeting of minds."

Hussein agreed about the danger posed by extreme Islamic terrorists. He told Netanyahu that "they do an injustice to Islam," and that this is a menace that had not yet been properly addressed by the international community.

Netanyahu said that the "Oslo accords were unraveling in a big way. Gaza had become a mini-Tehran, and the problem now is to prevent the PLO getting more cities which would eventually be turned over to the Hamas and become additional Tehrans that could undermine the security of both Israel and Jordan."

He envisioned "a situation in

two years in which a new Likud Government and Jordan would have to jointly undo the damage of the Oslo agreement."

Hussein spoke of the need to bolster the peace economically, and Netanyahu reported to him on his efforts via American politicians to win a debt forgiveness for Jordan, "which is just as worried as Israel about a possible cut in US foreign aid."

When the official talks were over, Hassan reminded Netanyahu of the Karameh battle of March 21, 1968, which was his first time under fire and the first time he crossed the border in a military action. Hassan flew Netanyahu to Shuneh, the compound where Hassan's grandfather King Abdullah met Golda Meir in 1947. From there they drove in Hassan's Mercedes to Karameh, where Netanyahu laid a wreath at the monu-

ment to the 80 Jordanian casualties in the battle.

When he remarked that 20 Israeli soldiers lost their lives there too, Hassan suggested a joint monument. Netanyahu agreed that "this would be a most fitting symbol for peace."

Karama, "which hadn't changed much," according to Netanyahu, "looked very familiar after all this time. I easily spotted the area in which hundreds of PLO prisoners were rounded up in the operation 26 years ago," he told the Post.

Netanyahu brought an old Yemenite hanukia for Hussein and a silver Shabbat spice box for Hassan. He received a piece of pottery, and an invitation to bring his wife over for a three-day visit.

The Israelis were driven back to the Allenby Bridge in Hassan's car, with Hassan himself at

the wheel.

David Makovsky adds:

Hussein told Netanyahu he was very pleased that the Likud supported the peace treaty between the two countries, as in the past members of Likud, including Netanyahu, had said "Jordan is Palestine."

Netanyahu, whose meeting yesterday was his third with high-ranking Jordanian officials and first with the monarch, has hammered home the point over and over again to his Jordanian interlocutors that this is no longer Likud's position.

Netanyahu also sought to assuage the Jordanian leadership that Israel has no interest in flooding Jordanian markets with Israeli goods, but rather would like to help Jordan strengthen its own economy by seeking outlets for its own exports abroad.

Shahal: Build fence on Green Line

RAINE MARCUS

A TOTAL separation of Palestinian and Jewish populations may be necessary, Police Minister Moshe Shahal said yesterday.

On a tour of Green Line communities in the Sharon area, Shahal said he would recommend construction of an electronic fence along the Green Line, and would reinforce police there to prevent Arabs from the territories from entering Israel illegally.

Aside from the danger of terrorism, Shahal noted that "the differences between the two populations' economic situations and standards of living will only cause an escalation in property and other crimes as long as they live side by side."

Now that police are responsible for security along the Green Line, additional reinforcements and resources are needed, he said. Shahal said he hopes to enlist 1,500 soldiers into the police and Border Police forces next year, with an additional 1,500 soldiers expected to serve in the force during 1996-7.

One of their duties will be to check cars arriving here from the territories.

A car is stolen in Israel every 25 minutes, usually ending up in the territories or sold for parts, Shahal said. Police succeed in tracing about half of the vehicles, he said.

Recently, police have caught gangs of car thieves aged 14-20 who steal cars from Israeli towns and cities and then sell them to Arabs from the territories for NIS 400 a vehicle, Central District police chief Cmdr. Shlomo Aharonishky said.

"If buyers are not found for the vehicles, the thieves torch them," he said. Israeli license plates are replaced with blue ones from the territories and police find it difficult to track them down, he added.

Central District police and council heads from Rosh Ha'ayin, just a few kilometers from the Green Line, and Kochav Ya'ir - on the border itself - told Shahal about internal security and crime

problems in the area.

Criminals from Rosh Ha'ayin cooperate with residents of nearby Kfar Kassem to commit drug and property offenses, said Aharonishky.

Kochav Ya'ir, surrounded by Arab villages, does not have sufficient security officers, and police do not do enough to safeguard residents' security, said council leaders and heads of security there.

Shahal offered to provide additional jeeps if volunteers to man them could be found.

He also recommended that police use their authority to fine Israeli employers hiring illegal Arab laborers from the territories after he was told police do not have sufficient manpower to crack down on them.

"The new law enables police to fine such employers NIS 2,500 daily," he said. "Because of their greed and wish to save money, these employers are partners in terrorist attacks carried out by their illegal laborers."

Fatah-Hamas group whitewash over anti-Arafat slogans in Gaza

JON IMMANUEL

A FATAH-HAMAS dialogue committee followed up on conciliation talks yesterday afternoon by whitewashing over anti-Arafat slogans sprayed on walls in Gaza.

Almost simultaneously, two Fatah factions had a street fight with guns in Nablis, resulting in five wounded, according to Nablis PLO sources.

The dialogue committee headed by Hamas spokesman Dr. Mahmoud Zahar and Fatah Secretary-General Tayyeb Abdul-Rahim began painting over the wall slogans and others followed.

The slogans had been sprayed on after the Gaza Police fired at stone-throwing Hamas supporters at the Palestine Mosque on November 18, leaving 13 dead. PLO leader Yasser Arafat came under sharp attack by Hamas after the shooting, and he brought out hundreds of armed Fatah Hawks supporters in a rally supporting him.

In Nablis, five people were wounded yesterday after a group of armed Fatah activists from Ein Beit el Mai refugee camp stormed into the building housing the PLO office in the center of town. They were angered by a leaflet distributed against them, apparently accusing them of undermining Arafat.

One man carrying an Uzi sub-machine gun opened fire in the stairwell and in the street, according to the sources.

Sources said the PLO office is run by supporters of the Jericho Preventive Security Service, headed by Col. Jibril Rajoub, and are members of the force.

There have been several clashes between Rajoub supporters and other Fatah groups in the Tul-kam-Nablis area.

IDF troops in Nablis were alerted to the scene which is near an IDF post. Military sources said there was "an exchange of fire."

In Gaza, soldiers at the Morag Junction military position found a homemade bomb yesterday. Sappers defused it, the IDF said.

Two killed in accidents

AN 87-year-old man was run over and killed yesterday afternoon near the entrance to his home in Afula while crossing the street.

Yehiel Ubeizer died when he was struck by a car trying to pass another vehicle. Police are seeking witnesses to the accident.

In a work accident in Netanyahu's Kiryat Nardaan section, Assaf Dahan, 23, of Herzliya was killed when he was buried under a pile of earth during a dig to lay a water pipe. His fellow workers desperately tried to dig him out, and eventually extracted him but attempts to revive him failed. Police and the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry are investigating the accident. (Itim)

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The weekly meeting of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street.

JEHOVAH

(Continued from Page One)

directly in the case of a non-terminal patient, but two rulings touched on it indirectly. In one, Justice Gavriel Bach upheld the American opinion; in the other, former Justice Moshe Bejski ruled that the interest in preserving life outweighed the patient's wishes.

Anglo-American law has also rejected the idea that a person can be forced to accept treatment for the benefit of a third party, such as the child who would be orphaned if he died. One of the reasons for this, Halpin noted, is that it would be hard to define the limits of such a doctrine. Could a Catholic woman with several children, for instance, be forced to undergo an abortion if the pregnancy endangered her life?

While withholding treatment also contradicts medical ethics,

Halpin continued, Anglo-American law has held that this consideration is subservient to the patient's right to refuse treatment, since the latter is constitutionally grounded and the former is not.

Furthermore, wrote American legal scholar John Paris, which was quoted in the appeal, "the doctrine of informed consent is grounded precisely on the premise that a physician's judgment is subservient to the patient's right to self-determination."

Finally, Halpin noted, if the law upholds the patient's right to refuse treatment, the doctor will not be open to any civil or criminal claims for doing so. In fact, what could create legal problems for a doctor is performing an invasive procedure against the patient's will - something British courts have held to be tantamount to assault.

it is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of our dear

BRONIA GUGGENHEIM

The funeral will take place today, December 7 1994, at 4:00 p.m., at the Kfar Shmaryahu cemetery.

The mourning family:

ברוך דיין אמת

It is with great sorrow that we announce the sudden passing of our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and sister,

CHANNAH EHRENREICH

of Beth El and New York

The funeral will take place Wednesday December 7, 1994. For exact time please call 02-973036.

Boxer
Dubin
Peretz
Goldstein
Ehrenreich
and Arviv families.
Shiva will be observed in Beth El.

Jerusalem Municipality

The Mayor and the Members of the City Council mourn the death of

ANNA GRACE LIND

Worthy of Jerusalem



The Jerusalem Foundation mourns the death of a dear lady

ANNA GRACE VESTER LIND

and expresses condolences to her family.

Teddy Kollek, Chairman
Ruth Cheshin, President

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of

ELLA WILLIAMS

The funeral took place on Tuesday, December 6, 1994.

Sons: Meir and Yoetz Deutsch
Sister: Lea Mendelovic
Grandchildren and great-grandchildren
Shiva at 10 Batfour St., Jerusalem.

The Staff of the
Tnuva Instruction Center, Tel Aviv
mourn the death of a dear colleague

SHMUEL WEINER

and offer sympathy to the family.

The unveiling of the tombstone of
Blanche Kalish

will take place today, Wednesday, December 7, at 2 p.m. at the Eretz Hachaim cemetery, Haruv - Beit Shemesh. Bus leaves from 9 Diskin, Sha'arei Hessed at 1:15 p.m. sharp.

Haredim rip concert for Hebron Jews

HERB KEINON

A BENEFIT concert for the Jewish settlement in Hebron tonight by leading hassidic singer Avraham ("Moshiach, Moshiach") Fried has drawn some fire from haredi circles, who say the way to raise money for the settlement and the Machpela Cave is not by singing to a male-female audience.

An unknown group called the Committee for the Holiness of Our Community ran an advertisement in the haredi daily *Yated Ne'eman* yesterday blasting the organizers of the benefit for having the "hutzpa" to choose a night of song as a vehicle to raise such money for the settlement in Hebron and for the Machpela Cave.

Under the headline "A Vigorous Protest," the group wrote that three leading halachic rabbis, Yosef Shalom Elyashiv, Shlomo Zalman Orlbach, and Vishnitzer Rebbe Moshe Yehoshua Hager, have come out against attending any type of concert.

"It is clear," the ad read, "that no haredi Jew will go to an evening like this, and we express our protest at the organizers of this abomination, who on the one hand want to use the haredi community for the sake of the settlement in Hebron, and on the other hand stab haredi Judaism in the back and utterly disregard the warnings of the Torah sages not to raise money by way of these types of evenings."

"A settlement is not strengthened through sin," the advertisement read. "And to bring the Machpela Cave of our holy fathers into it is extreme hutzpa and the desecration of what is holy."

Noam Arnon, the head of the settlement in Hebron which is organizing the evening, said he does not know who the group is "who are using the names of the rabbis in a ridiculous way. Each of the rabbis mentioned in the ad loves Hebron, and surely does not think that what we are doing is an abomination. Those responsible for the ad are a small, unknown group of zealots."

Arnon, who stressed there will be separate seating for males and females at the concert, said that ticket sales in the haredi community have not been hurt by this "protest," and that most of the 10,000 tickets at the Jerusalem International Convention Center, selling for NIS 50 and NIS 60 each, have been sold.

A saleswoman at Gal Paz, a music store in Jerusalem's haredi Geula neighborhood, said that tickets are being sold. "This type of protest is nothing new," she said, adding that every time there is a concert attractive to haredim there is this type of reaction.

'Yom Le'Yom' bids for charity money

HERB KEINON

IN an unusual marketing bid, Shas's weekly newspaper *Yom Le'Yom* is sending letters to subscribers signed by Rabbi Ovadia Yosef telling them it is permissible to use money set aside for charity to help support the ailing paper.

The paper is important, Yosef wrote, because "unfortunately we are in a spiritually deficient era, a perverse generation, where the media perverts and distorts the image of our Sephardi brethren, observers of Torah and mitzvot... We are cruelly persecuted, and our persecutors lift up their heads and roll over us with libel and with words that have no truth."

Yosef wrote that a group of businessmen have been carrying the burden of the paper for the last two years, "and the burden is very heavy. Therefore I turn to you with a request to help."

To this end, Yosef wrote, it is halachically permissible to use the tithing money that many Jews put aside for charitable purposes to help support the newspaper.

Last month *Yom Le'Yom* scaled back from a daily to a weekly because of financial problems.



Ex-Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek makes like King David next to 1993 International Harp Contest in Israel winner Marie Pierre Langlamet yesterday to promote this year's event, which opens Saturday night at the Sherover Theater in Jerusalem. (Vera Ezion)

Magen: Cancel rabbinical nepotism

EVELYN GORDON

THE Religious Affairs Ministry and the Netanyahu religious council should immediately cancel the improper rabbinical appointments cited in the recent state comptroller's report, the Knesset State Control Committee Chairman David Magen (Likud) demanded yesterday.

However, State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat said she was not sure the appointments could be legally canceled, since this would primarily damage the appointed rabbis, who were not the guilty parties.

The committee was discussing Ben-Porat's findings that the Netanyahu religious council appointed the son of the Sephardi town rabbi and the son-in-law of the Ashkenazi town rabbi as neighborhood rabbis, even though they lacked

the proper certification. Furthermore, the appointments were made without tender, in defiance of ministry regulations. Only two years later, when the two finally acquired certification, was a tender held - for which they were the only candidates.

Another rabbi was given a job as neighborhood rabbi in charge of a single street, even though several members of the council objected that this "neighborhood" was purely fictitious.

Ze'ev Rosenberg, director-general of the Religious Affairs Ministry, said all these events were possible because the council is basically subordinate to the town rabbis. The ministry, therefore, is working on an amendment to the

religious services law that would give the religious councils more independence, he said.

Shaul Yahalom (NRP) suggested forbidding relatives of town rabbis to participate in tenders for neighborhood positions at all, since their relationship would give them an unfair advantage.

Ben-Porat said that even if the rabbis in question cannot legally be removed from their posts, the appointments were morally unacceptable.

However, Arye Gamliel (Shas) retorted that everyone has their own morality. If the High Court of Justice thinks homosexual partnerships are okay, he said, it is okay for religious Jews to approve of passing a rabbinical post from father to son.

Dead Sea area towns suffer damage from rain Committee: Fuel mishaps create frightening situation

AMIR ROZENBLIT

THE recent heavy rainfall has caused extensive damage to the infrastructure, towns and tourism sites in the Dead Sea area, according to Tamar local council head Yoav Givati.

"It is unimaginable that every time it rains, the towns and tourism areas will be cut off from the rest of the country," said Givati. "As a result, tourists are trapped in their hotels and pregnant women can't get to the hospital."

The infrastructure along the Dead Sea coast is not suitable to the existing needs, said Givati.

"The area has been cut off three times in less than one month," he said. "Winter has not even begun and who knows what could be waiting for us."

Givati said the flooding caused a cut-off in water supplies, phone lines and electricity, and damaged water purification systems.

He called on the government to take initiative and build decent infrastructure for the area, including the construction of bridges and deepening river beds.

"It is not possible that a 1.6 million dunam area, which is one of Israel's most popular tourism areas, will be the victim of a yearly natural disaster. This absurdity must end," said Givati.

Beersheba has also suffered from the bad weather. Last week, the Abraham Bridge collapsed, rendering the route useless. Police canceled today's Beduin market as a result of the bridge collapse.

"HAIFA and Ashkelon are sitting on a powder keg," MK Silvan Shalom said yesterday at a meeting of the Knesset Energy subcommittee which he chairs.

The session was called to discuss two incidents last week: a leak at the Israel Oil Services' pipeline which supplies the Haifa oil refineries, and a fire caused when lightning struck a huge fuel tank belonging to the Eilat-Ashkelon Pipeline Co.

The Haifa incident was discovered when children in a Neve Shanan neighborhood school complained of the smell and suffered from vomiting, dizziness and fainting.

The fire in Ashkelon was not immediately reported to the relevant authorities. Pipeline company employees controlled the blaze and there were no injuries, damage or environmental harm.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal described the situation as "frightening." He blasted Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, whose ministry is responsible for the Eilat-Ashkelon Pipeline Co. and demanded that the company be immediately transferred to the Energy Ministry. "It is absurd. It is operating like an orphan with no supervision," Shahal said.

Shalom said no fuel should run through the Haifa pipeline until it is certain that it will not leak again. "And we need to examine alternatives to these pipelines. We can't rely on miracles forever. We also need to ensure that if accidents occur, trained personnel will deal with them and report them to all the relevant authorities." He called for comprehensive legislation to regulate the situation.

The fire broke out around 2 a.m. on the second story of the three-story "Women's League" building which houses women soldiers and students. Forces of police, firefighters and Magen David Adom personnel arrived on the scene and began extinguishing the fire and evacuating the injured. Hostel manager Zehava Shmueli said that the building has 250 beds and that 220 women stayed there the night of the fire.

One young woman said that "everyone panicked and there was widespread hysteria." Over the weekend, one man was killed and five were injured in fires started when items placed too close to electric heaters caught fire.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MK: Send children with lice home

Labor MK Yoram Lass plans to submit a bill which would require children with lice to be sent home from school. According to Lass, many parents don't regularly wash their children's hair since they believe they will catch lice anyhow. As a result, those children become a focus of infection. This problem can only be eliminated through legislation, Lass said. Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said the ministry had no intention of sending children with lice home. The problem needs to be solved by the school health services, he said. *lit*

JNF ready for tree planting campaign

JNF foresters will plant 3 million saplings this planting season, the Jewish National Fund said yesterday. Planting will be expanded by 30,000 dunams under the theme of "Planting for Peace."

Ex-chief rabbi of France dies

Jacob Kaplan, grand rabbi of France from 1955 to 1981, died of lung failure Monday at his Paris home. He was 99. He was known both for his staunch support of Zionism and his openness to dialogue with the Christian churches of France.

2 blind people get transplants - and see

TWO blind people who received corneal transplants during the past few days have begun to see. Sheba Hospital reported yesterday that an unprecedented seven corneal transplants were performed during the past two days, after families agreed to donate this transparent, external part of the eye from their deceased relatives. Sheba's cornea unit performs

some 150 corneas transplants each year. In 1990, it established a cornea bank which supplies corneas to other hospitals.

Further public awareness of the importance of transplants and better training of hospital personnel who deal with families of potential donors have increased the number of corneal transplants by 40 percent above 1993's figure. *Judy Siegel*

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Dogs drown at Beersheba shelter

LIAT COLLINS

SEVERAL dogs drowned last week at the Beersheba Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals when the dilapidated shelter was flooded. According to Etti Altman, spokeswoman of Let the Animals Live, which helps operate the Beersheba center, the shelter is on the verge of collapse.

Some 500 dogs are housed at the shelter, the only one serving the region between Rehovot and Eilat. The cold weather and rains have also led to a wave of deaths from illnesses and cold, particularly among the puppies, Altman said.

Although Let the Animals Live is opposed to euthanasia in principle, Altman said yesterday that some of the animals there might have to be humanely put down "to

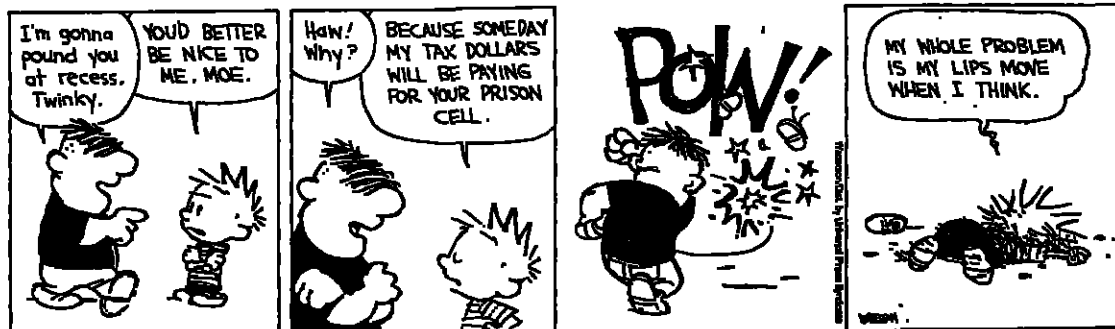
avoid further misery." The shelter, plagued with rats, infrastructure problems and lacking an access road or even a telephone, is scheduled to move to a new site in the area shortly but Altman said more animals might die of disease and cold before the move.

Details about adoption events and rescue campaign can be obtained by calling: 03-647 5812, 03-604 6488, 050-358421. Meanwhile, Lev LeChai is urging the public to help save street cats by putting out scraps of food and allowing the homeless felines to sleep in shelters and storerooms.

The group is also looking for volunteers at its branches throughout the country: 03-936 4070.

Calvin and Hobbes

BY BILL WATTERSON



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Panel okays Trans-Israel Highway bill

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved the Trans-Israel Highway bill by a vote of 12-0, with one abstention.

The bill is expected to go to the plenum for its final reading next week.

After the vote, Trans-Israel Highway Corporation managing director Yehuda Cohen expressed relief that the bill, which has dragged its way through the committee for months, had finally passed, enabling his company to get on with its work.

Cohen said none of the changes made in the bill by the committee were significant.

"Even in its current formulation, the law is expected to greatly speed up [expropriations] in comparison to the current procedure," he said. "And we understand that this is the best it was possible to achieve."

The bill will hasten expropriations by eliminating the need for the government to obtain a court order to proceed if the owner objects. Instead, an owner who objects must obtain a court order if he wishes to stop the expropriation - and the court can give such an order only if there was a procedural flaw in the expropriation. This will prevent the expropriation from being held up for years due to battles over the amount of compensation.

The bill also sets up a special compensation committee to determine the size of the compensation. With the consent of the Israel Lands Administration, it can also grant alternative lands in lieu of

compensation. The committee's decisions can be appealed in a district court.

One of the main changes made by the Finance Committee was to up the price of the compensation. The original bill provided that compensation would be on the basis of the land's value before the sale. However, the committee decided that compensation should be based on what "a voluntary buyer and a voluntary seller" would agree to, which is generally somewhat higher.

The MKs also changed the composition of the compensation committee. Originally, the Treasury had wanted its representatives to dominate, but the MKs decided it should consist of a retired judge and two public representatives chosen by the justice minister.

"In my opinion, the law is now balanced, and it will be all right," said coalition whip Avraham Poraz (Meretz). However, he added, it would still have been better not to pass a special law at all, since this created expectations of special treatment on the part of those whose lands will be expropriated - and these expectations "will in the end undoubtedly increase the amount of compensation the government has to pay."

Ariel Weinstein (Likud), who abstained, primarily objected to the fact that the compensation committee is not bound by the recommendations of the government assessor. This, he said, enables the committee to act in an arbitrary and discriminatory fashion.

35 injured in fire at Tel Aviv women's hostel

RAINE MARCUS and lit

THE FIRE which broke out at a Tel Aviv women's hostel early yesterday morning, injuring 35, was caused by the short-circuiting of a television set in the lounge, Tel Aviv fire chief Aharon Eshel said.

One young woman injured her spine after she leapt out of a second story window to escape the blaze, and was taken to Ichilov Hospital suffering from moderate to severe injuries.

Another woman suffering from burns was also reportedly in moderate condition at Tel Hashomer's Sheba Hospital. Thirty-three others were lightly injured from smoke inhalation and were expected to be released from the hospital last night.

The fire broke out around 2 a.m. on the second story of the three-story "Women's League" building which houses women soldiers and students. Forces of police, firefighters and Magen David Adom personnel arrived on the scene and began extinguishing the fire and evacuating the injured. Hostel manager Zehava Shmueli said that the building has 250 beds and that 220 women stayed there the night of the fire.

One young woman said that "everyone panicked and there was widespread hysteria."

Over the weekend, one man was killed and five were injured in fires started when items placed too close to electric heaters caught fire.

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Russia blocks criticism of Serbs at security summit

GEORGE JAHN
BUDAPEST

Bosnian delegate: It's a failure of the CSCE

RUSSIA, fighting for a strong role in a new Europe, blocked criticism of Bosnian Serbs at a security summit yesterday but agreed to a new peacekeeping force for a troubled former Soviet republic.

Representatives from the 52-nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe wrapped up a final document mapping out future strategy for preventing conflicts in Europe.

But a new chill between Moscow and the West hampered progress on some issues, five years after the Berlin Wall came down.

Former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who played a key role in ending communist rule in eastern Europe, voiced the fears of new nations feeling their way.

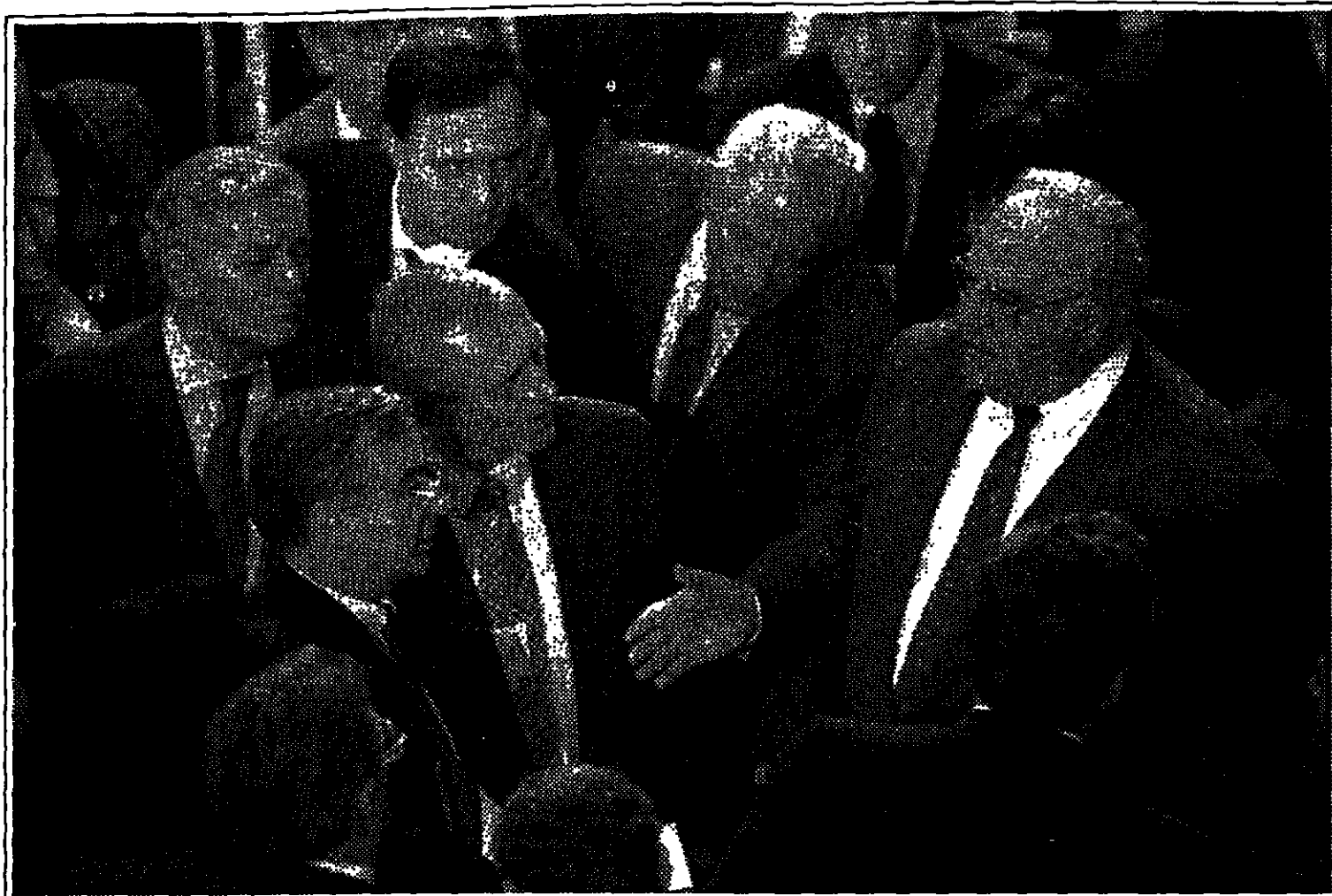
"We are living through such a frightening peace because the Cold War has not yet rid us of its legacy," said Shevardnadze, now president of Georgia, riven by ethnic war.

"The (Cold) War is over," he said. "Beware of the peace."

Invoking the Bosnian war raging 300 miles away, world leaders agreed at Monday's opening session that increased CSCE powers were necessary. And President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia berated the West for not stopping the carnage that has left 200,000 dead and missing.

But all language on the former Yugoslavia - including a strong condemnation of Serb attacks on the UN "safe area" of Bihac in northwest Bosnia - was excised from the final document at the insistence of Moscow, a traditional ally of Serbia.

"The Russians blocked everything," chief Bosnian delegate Mahir Hadziahmetovic said yesterday. "There will be nothing in the final document on the most burning crisis in Europe. ... it's a



Chief Bosnian delegate Mahir Hadziahmetovic, with glasses, listens to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday during a break in the closing session of the CSCE. (Reuters)

failure of the CSCE."

At yesterday's closing session, Hadziahmetovic assailed the world for its inaction.

"You allow the strangulation and aggression of our people," he said. "You allow the Serbs to make a mockery of the international community."

He jeered at a face-saving Hungarian resolution to appeal for a cease-fire and humanitarian assistance. "My country is not facing a natural disaster," he said. "We are facing aggression."

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany urged Bosnia in vain to accept the statement before the 51

other nations approved the appeal as a non-CSCE document.

Croatia's chief delegate, Darko Bekic, said action on Bosnia fell victim to new problems between Moscow and Washington.

"Unfortunately this is a tense period between Russia and the West," Bekic said yesterday. "We

are the first victims of the new superpower rivalry. We are being ground up between the two."

Moscow's fears of losing influence in a changing Europe led Boris Yeltsin to accuse the United States and NATO of trying to exclude and isolate his country.

"Why sow the seeds of mis-

trust? After all, we are no longer enemies - we are all partners now," Yeltsin said at the opening session, where he attacked NATO's plans to admit other former Warsaw Pact nations.

Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev of Russia toned down the anti-West rhetoric in an interview with Associated Press Television.

"There is evident difference on accents and approaches, (but) we're sticking to partnership and we will find ways," he said.

A top US official insisted it was business as usual with Yeltsin on most issues but acknowledged some tensions with Moscow as it stands excluded from NATO and the European Union.

The CSCE represents the United States, Russia, Canada and most European nations. Created in 1975, it was the only forum where NATO and the Warsaw Pact came together to discuss security and human rights.

Russia has long sought to make the CSCE the premier security organization in Europe. The United States favors a more assertive CSCE, though not at the expense of NATO.

While claiming a central role for the CSCE in "building a secure and stable" Europe, the conference's final document recognized the tough work ahead.

"Warfare ... continues to occur," it said. "The plagues of aggressive nationalism, racism, chauvinism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and ethnic tension are still widespread."

On the plus side was agreement to create the CSCE's first peacekeeping force, to police an uneasy cease-fire in Nagorno-Karabakh, an ethnic Armenian enclave in Azerbaijan.

Diplomats said no peacekeepers would be sent, however, until a formal truce is declared and the warring sides begin negotiations. (AP)

Islamic states want to peacekeep

GENEVA (Reuters) - Leading Islamic allies said yesterday they backed a Bosnian government request to send in peacekeepers if Western powers follow through on a threat to withdraw troops.

The support, combined with offers of financial aid, was offered at a meeting of foreign ministers from seven key member states of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), also attended by Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic.

In Zagreb, the United Nations said yesterday that Croatian army forces were fighting alongside a Bosnian Croat militia in a push against the Serbs in western Bosnia.

At the same time the Croat units are firing across the border from Bosnia at rebel Serb positions inside the occupied Krajina enclave of Croatia.

Croatia only agreed to withdraw its forces from Bosnia earlier this year under threat of international sanctions and has not admitted they have crossed back across the border.

The United Nations believes the Croatian forces are part of a push against the Serbs in a northwesterly direction towards the town of Bosansko Grahovo, which controls access to Serb-held Bosnia from the rebel Serb stronghold of Knin in Croatia.

Croatian television has shown footage of an offensive in Bosnia it says is being carried out by the Bosnian Croat HVO militia, but has not mentioned any Croatian army involvement.

UN spokesman Paul Risley said: "We are concerned by reports of military operations by Bosnian military forces and apparently Croatian military forces within Bosnia proper in operations moving north-west along the international boundary between Croatia and Bosnia."

The Islamic foreign ministers were set to call yesterday for NATO air strikes to destroy Serb missile installations in the Bosnian war and urge a "more robust role" for United Nations UNPROFOR peacekeeping forces.

The twin decisions on air strikes and offering troops were contained in a draft declaration diplomats said was almost certain to be adopted by the group at the end of a day of talks focused on the situation around the Serb-besieged town of Bihac.

Bosnia's Moslem President Alija Izetbegovic, condemning the West for "inaction", appealed for support for his government in the closed-door talks, which were chaired by Pakistan's Foreign Minister Asif Ali Zardari.

In Kiev yesterday, the head of the Iranian parliament criticized the United Nations and the United States for ineffectiveness and indifference to bloodshed in Bosnia.

Dudayev, Grachev agree to avoid force in Chechnya

ORDZHONIKIDZEVSKOYE, Russia (Reuters) - Chechen leader Dzhokhar Dudayev and Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev yesterday agreed force would not be used to solve the protracted crisis in the breakaway region.

"There will not be a military solution to the question," both men told reporters, speaking one after the other in the wake of more than an hour of talks in the small town of Ordzhonikidzevskoye, part of the Ingushetia region which borders Chechnya.

No further details of the agreement were immediately available.

Interfax news agency earlier quoted Dudayev as saying the talks were the "last chance to avoid a war" with Moscow's forces in his region, which declared independence in 1991.

"The main result was a verbal announcement that there would not be a military solution. Both men were pleased with the talks," local administration chief Alekhan Pliyev told Reuters.

The meeting was the first between a top Russian official and Dudayev since the end of 1991, when he challenged Moscow by declaring his north Caucasus republic independent.

President Boris Yeltsin has rowed back from his initial plan to announce a state of emergency in

Chechnya after serious fighting between Dudayev's forces and Moscow-backed rebels. But Russia is continuing a military buildup along Chechen borders.

Chechen foreign minister Shamsedin Yusef said the talks were held on the initiative of Grachev, who earlier met the head of the Moscow-backed Provisional Council opposition trying to overthrow Dudayev.

Russia's Itar-Tass news agency quoted Grachev as saying the two men had settled the problem of some 20 Russian servicemen captured during an abortive assault on the Chechen capital Grozny 10 days ago.

Dudayev was quoted as saying he was ready to free all Russian military captives.

Before the talks, Yusef said he was skeptical about the outcome.

"They (Moscow) want to force Chechnya into the Russian Federation, but we (will) never, never go. This is Chechnya - we are independent," he said.

The Kremlin has said it is ready to negotiate a political end to the crisis if Chechnya acknowledges it is a subordinate part of Russia. This the Chechen leader rejects.

Dudayev has agreed on talks with Moscow "on equal terms" but he rejects any negotiations with the Provisional Council, which Moscow supports.

Interfax quoted Dudayev as saying he was attending the talks "not as a (Chechen) president, but rather as a general."

An official source said Provisional Council leader Umar Avturkhanov had told Grachev he was willing to lay down his arms and called for free elections.

A Russian air force Sukhoi Su-27 bomber buzzed Grozny yesterday to remind Dudayev's supporters that Moscow rules the air space above Chechnya.

Irish elections likely after talks collapse

DUBLIN (Reuters) - Talks on a new alliance between Ireland's Labor and Fianna Fail parties collapsed yesterday and early elections appeared likely.

Labor leader Dick Spring pulled his party out of talks with Fianna Fail a few hours before he was set to clinch a deal which would have made Fianna Fail leader Bertie Ahern prime minister and Spring his deputy.

"It's very serious. We were hoping to form a government today but that is not going to be the case," Ahern told reporters when he arrived at parliament yesterday.

Spring turned his back on Fianna Fail after fresh allegations of attempts by Fianna Fail to cover up government mishandling of a child sex abuse case which has haunted Irish politics for more than a month.

The Irish Times rekindled the controversy when it alleged that former prime minister Albert Reynolds, who was forced to resign over the government's handling of the child abuse case, had misled parliament about the affair.

Reynolds was to give his version of events when he addressed parliament in his capacity as caretaker prime minister later yesterday.

Political sources said Spring began exploratory talks with the main opposition party, Fine Gael, to try to form an alternative coalition together with another opposition party, the Democratic Left.

The three control a total 85 seats in the 166-seat parliament. But political sources said there was little guarantee that Labor would strike a bargain with the opposition.

They said that Spring would expect to be offered a rotating premiership under such a deal but Fine Gael leader John Bruton is against any such offer.

Bentsen resigns, Rubin to succeed

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton "with deep regret" announced yesterday as Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, head of his National Economic Council, to the job.

In a Rose Garden announcement, Clinton praised Bentsen for a "job, very, very well done."

The president said Bentsen had expressed a desire to return to his native Texas to spend more time with his family and grandchildren but would be available to serve in a "kitchen Cabinet" to provide advice to the administration.

Bentsen's resignation was to take effect on Dec. 22. Rubin, who amassed a multimillion-dollar fortune on Wall Street before joining the administration, will have to win Senate approval.

Bentsen called Rubin "an excellent choice" and said he had originally recommended Rubin for the Treasury job when Clinton approached him in 1992.

"After a career in public service, I want to go back to Texas, to my roots and return to the private



Bentsen: I want to go back to Texas. (AP)

sector ... while I still had a spring in my step," Bentsen said.

Bentsen said he had told Clinton he planned to leave after the

midterm elections "and the completion of our agenda for the year."

He said Rubin is "a man of honor and integrity" with "knowledge of our problems and programs."

Clinton said that Rubin had done an excellent job as the "consummate, honest broker" in his position as director of the National Economic Council, the organization Clinton established to develop economic strategy.

Rubin said that "too many people are not feeling the benefits" of the economic recovery, even though he said he believed much had been accomplished to improve business prospects during the administration's first two years.

Bentsen, 73, is the administration's elder statesman on economic policy and is regarded highly by former colleagues in Congress, both Democrats and Republicans.

Rubin, 56, spent nearly three decades at the giant Wall Street investment firm of Goldman, Sachs & Co. He quit as chairman last year.

Antibiotics losing effectiveness against diseases

GENEVA (AP) - A growing resistance to antibiotics has caused a resurgence of diseases such as tuberculosis and cholera, and measures are urgently needed to combat the trend, the World Health Organization said yesterday.

Bacteria "are spreading with unexpected rapidity having developed defense mechanisms against existing antibiotics," experts from 23 countries convened by the UN agency said after a four-day meeting that ended Friday.

"Antibiotics ... are losing their effectiveness. Once a new drug has become widely used, resistance to it is already emerging somewhere in the world," WHO said.

WHO said it called the meeting to discuss the increasing number of reports of drug-resistant diseases.

In Zaire, for example, Rwandan refugees developed dysentery that long resisted treatment until doctors located an effective drug, WHO spokesman Valery Abramov said.

"Resistance is epidemic in many countries and multi-drug resistance leaves doctors with virtually no room for maneuver in the treatment of an increasing number of diseases," said Prof. Jacques Acar of the Pierre and Marie Curie University in Paris.

"In hospitals alone, an estimated 1 million bacterial infections are occurring worldwide every day, and most of these are drug-resistant."

Abramov said no new "miracle drugs" are on the horizon. The pharmaceutical industry is unlikely to manufacture any new classes of antibiotics within the next five to ten years, he said.

WHO's proposed remedies include policies to control the availability of antibiotics, controlling infection acquired in hospitals and expanding a worldwide network to catalogue cases of resistance to antibiotics.

Every year tuberculosis, cholera and other diarrheal diseases kill millions of people who are resistant to many types of antibiotics, WHO said.



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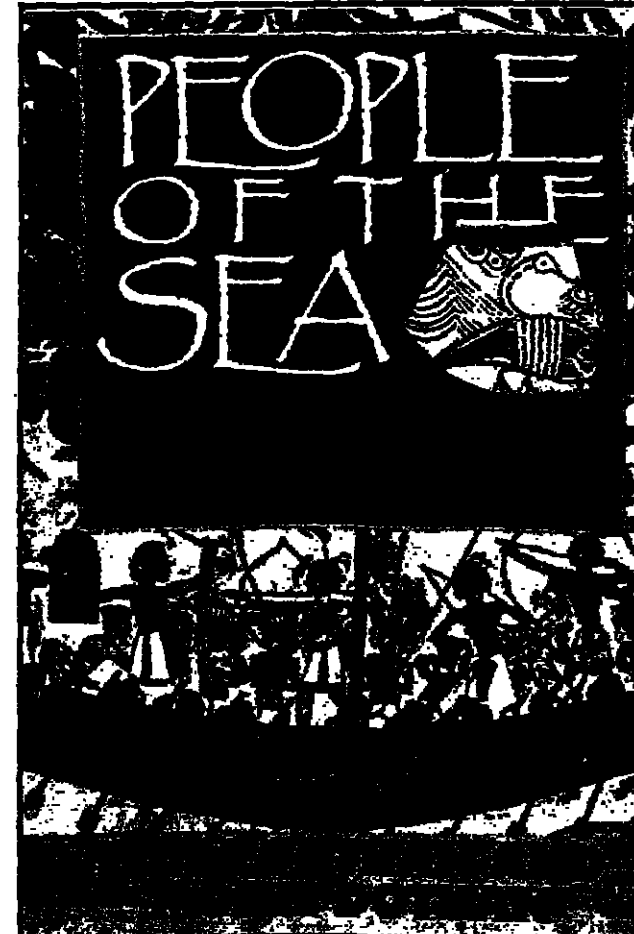


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The Palestinians' winter of discontent with Arafat

THE first winter of Yasser Arafat's reign blew in wet and sullen. A section of the highly publicized Gaza Seaport, actually a jerry-built fishing pier, collapsed into the sea.

Then storms washed away a sand embankment freshly built for flood control by Palestinian police and named, in lofty style, the Gaza Dam.

Like those grand plans of summer, Palestinian expectations about Arafat have taken a beating.

Barely four months ago, the PLO chieftain returned to Palestinian territory amid inflated hopes that he would start to build a state, act like a democrat and somehow transform himself into a Nelson Mandela-like figure of international respectability.

But he turned out, in the views of those who work with him, to be the same old Arafat, strong willed and tight fisted. He has now retreated behind a shield of bodyguards and political cronies. He is rarely seen in public.

"We are in full crisis," said a longtime aide, speaking on condition of anonymity. "If he doesn't

change, we will all be lost."

Even Arafat's harshest critics, those who call him an unreconstructed autocrat, make no distinction between the fate of the Palestinians and Arafat's future.

The PLO leader has so personalized the operation of the self-rule Palestinian Authority that he is seen as the sole figure capable of holding the whole fractious society together.

"There is still no other option," said Suleiman Najjab, a member of the PLO executive committee whose People's Party broke with Arafat this year. "If he was to be gone, there would be a free-for-all, fighting on any front."

By any measure, Arafat's task is daunting. Gaza, with its unemployment and slums, has no assured source of income.

This week he begins negotiations with clearly reluctant Israelis to expand autonomy beyond the cramped confines of Gaza - just as Islamic radicals are mounting their boldest challenge yet to the whole process.

"This is different from anything anyone has done in the world," said Odin Knudsen, the World

Bank representative to the territories.

"It's building an administration and government almost from scratch in a situation of crisis, where the window for making this work is very narrow."

MORE THAN ever, Arafat's office is the only address that matters.

Oblivious to rain or wind, the supplicants and hangers-on, the hustlers with schemes to sell or influence to trade, gather daily at Arafat's headquarters in a former sports club on the Gaza beach.

They plead with the guards for an audience with "the president."

More often than not, they get inside. And if willing to wait in the smoky anteroom until well past midnight, they get to see Arafat for a few minutes to beseech him for money, a job, a contract, a good word.

"He spends half of his day seeing hundreds of people who come to him with their problems," said

SUSAN SACHS
GAZA CITY

a close aide who followed him to Gaza four months ago from the PLO's exile base in Tunis. "He accepts all letters, all demands, even insults. He insists on seeing all of them and responding. He loves it, because people think he's a miracle man."

BUT ARAFAT, so often mythologized over the years as a populist with the common touch, rarely leaves his office.

Surrounded by an air of perpetual crisis, he has made only one major public address to his people since establishing residence in Gaza in mid-July.

During the gravest crisis to hit his struggling self-rule administration, when 14 people were killed in clashes with Islamic militants two weeks ago, Arafat remained closeted in his office for four days.

When he emerged, it was only to speak, as a militia leader, to his own Fatah faction.

Once an inveterate traveler enamored of the elaborate welcome

ceremonies laid out for him by Third World potentates, Arafat now is unwilling to leave Gaza for more than a few days at a time.

No one in his contracting circle of confidants and advisers can dissuade him from such micro-management.

"After so much traveling in his life, he says he likes to sit in one place and play with all these little personal problems," said a minister in the Palestinian Authority, who declined to be identified.

West Bank intellectuals complain of the dictatorship way he has tried to censor critical Palestinian press reports.

Businessmen and international aid agencies complain of the murky way he set up his administration, with several feuding officials sharing the same responsibilities.

"He plays them off against each other," said a Western diplomat who has dealt closely with Arafat for two years. "Maybe you can run a liberation movement like

this, but not a government. And he is hesitant. He postpones decisions until he can't win."

A Palestinian cartoonist recently lampooned Arafat's overbearing style by portraying his administration as a collection of ministers without portfolios - or power. They decide and Arafat sometimes overrides.

Palestinians involved in negotiating with Israel also complain of Arafat's lack of vision.

"There is no collective decision-making and no collective work," said the planner in the self-rule government. "He wants to decide everything all alone. This isn't a new Yasser Arafat. We've known him for 30 years."

His ministers criticize him for lacking a clear policy on how to face the greatest internal challenge to the peace process - the increasingly bold Hamas who regularly denounce him and his police force as "collaborators."

Such complaints are hardly new. Nor is the reluctance of most veteran Palestinian activists to go public with their protests.

Six months ago, back in Tunis,

these same PLO officials admitted their impotence to change Arafat's style. Now they remain as timid and dependent as ever.

The PLO institutions and committees that once served as forums for complaints and political sparring have been all but abandoned.

Some prominent executive committee members, such as foreign affairs chief Farouk Kaddumi, remained behind in Tunis.

Mahmoud Abbas, also known as Abu Mazen, who negotiated the PLO-Israeli peace deal but has since been on bad terms with Arafat, came once and left.

Still others slog along.

Ahmed Qreia, also known as Abu Ala'a, an executive committee member and now economics minister in the self-rule government, said the Palestinian Authority has failed in its three main challenges: negotiations with Israel, providing security for Palestinians, and economic development.

"I work a lot," he said at his office near Jerusalem.

"But then again, not so much. And some of my work is fruitless." (Newsday)



Syrian President Hafez Assad (left) with Lebanese Parliament speaker Nabih Berri (center) and Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri at the presidential palace in Damascus. (AP)

A 'friendly' neighbor

THOMAS O'DWYER
and news agencies

ANY pretense that Lebanon is being restored as an independent state fizzled away this week when its squabbling politicians packed their bags and trooped off to Damascus to be told by Big Brother what to do next.

What free country would allow its prime minister to announce in a foreign capital that he was withdrawing his resignation at the urging of a foreign dictator?

Of course, this particular dictator, Hafez Assad, just happens to have 40,000 troops in Lebanon to underscore the political wisdom he so freely offered to beleaguered Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

Hariri resigned over political corruption scandals and cabinet rifts last week.

The prime minister met for 2½ hours with Assad who was said to be "satisfied with the positive outcome of the talks."

"Positive outcome" may be interpreted as the process of impressing on the Lebanese that Damascus - and not Beirut - will decide when Hariri may or may not resign.

The chastened Hariri announced that he was returning home to resume his duties. Explanations about what changed his mind were not forthcoming.

He merely issued a terse statement saying he would consult with President Elias Hrawi and Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri before making his decision public.

The talks were attended by the Shiite Berri, a key Hariri opponent.

The details of Assad's intervention were worked out by Syrian

political fig leaf of a cabinet reshuffle.

Some Lebanese journalists have been speculating that six of the 30 ministers may go. Others said three or four ministers named by Hariri as thorns in his side might be plucked out.

Berri is probably secure. Assad needs a certain measure of inter-tribe squabbling to secure the divide-and-rule principle in Lebanon. It would not do if Lebanese politicians suddenly rediscovered their subliminal patriotism and formed a united front to recover the lost dignity of their once proudly independent country.

Berri has been insisting on parliament's right to check the actions of the government and Hariri has charged obstruction of his policies - all of course within the Vichy-like fiction that this is a normal functioning administration.

Parliament turned down Hariri's request for special powers to enable him to launch reconstruction quickly when he took over in October 1992. It also refused last month to grant speedy passage to Hariri's \$11.38 billion, 10-year national reconstruction plan.

The Lebanese political "crisis" has been getting a reasonable amount of foreign media attention, especially from the news agencies.

Few are bothering to point out that it is not a real family squabble. That would imply freedom of action. If anything, it's like a squabble over groceries between members of a family being held hostage by an armed burglar.

To support the public fiction, Hariri was reportedly offered the

The writer edits the Middle East page.

A peaceful religion answers with violence

DALIA BALIGH
KHARTOUM

HASSAN Turabi has no official post, yet dignitaries and ambassadors trek to his modest offices to hear his thoughts on what is happening in Sudan and how an Islamic revival will sweep the world.

To the West, he is the architect of a campaign by Sudan to spread terrorism by Moslem radicals. To many Arabs, he is a visionary thinker on the future of Islam. From either side, he is the most influential man in Sudan.

The 62-year-old Turabi brushed aside questions about his power in Sudan. He focused instead on his view that "Islamic terrorism" has more to do with Western fears than with reality.

"The spreading of the Islamic revival has created a terror in the world," he said. "I care that the Islamic revival spreads, especially in the Arab world, because they

... can lead the international revival."

Turabi's power stems from his leadership of the National Islamic Front, which is in theory banned like other political parties but actually controls the government in this nation of 25 million people.

Sudan was put on the US list of terrorist-sponsoring states last year after five Sudanese were charged, among other defendants, in a plot to blow up New York landmarks. Sudan is accused of plotting with Iran and harboring radical groups like Hamas and Abu Nidal.

Although a champion of Islam, Turabi is a contrast to the religiously educated leaders of Iran. He studied in Britain and earned a

doctorate in law from the Sorbonne in 1964. He charms visitors in eloquent Arabic or fluent French and English.

He has been a political player in Sudan since 1965, holding posts under five regimes. Former President Ja'afar Nimeiri imprisoned Turabi for seven years, then made him a close aide.

He narrowly escaped death in 1992 when a Sudanese beat him during a visit to Canada. He was in a coma for days.

Since Lt.-Gen. Omar Hassan el-Bashir seized power in 1989, Turabi has been known as the power behind the throne. "I have to have relations with the regime ... but I am not an Islamic guide," he said with a grin. His only for-

mal job is head of the Popular Arab and Islamic Congress, a group he founded to promote religion.

He says that Islam is a peaceful religion but that he supports the tactics of radicals in Algeria and Egypt and among the Palestinians.

"A Moslem is not allowed to start violence, but he is allowed to answer back with violence if someone else starts," Turabi said.

US Ambassador Donald Petterson would not discuss Turabi, but said nothing has changed Washington's view of Sudan.

"There are training activities, terrorist organizations are allowed to function here, and there is interaction between the government and organizations here like Hamas, Hizbullah, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Abu Nidal and others," he said. (Associated Press)

Redrawing the Middle East's cultural map

NISSIM REJWAN

AFTER JEWS AND ARABS: Remaking Levantine Culture by Amiel Alcaley. Minneapolis and London, University of Minnesota Press. 336 pp. \$44.95/\$16.95.

JUDGING from its subtitle - "Remaking Levantine Culture" - the author of *After Jews and Arabs* has set himself the task of reviewing Hebrew, Arabic and Romance literature from the 10th century to the present.

The goal is ambitious. As the publishers put it, the book "redraws the cultural map of the Mediterranean and Middle East by examining the relationships between Jews and Arabs through various literary, political, social and historical moments."

By exposing the rich and diverse textual and cultural legacy of this time and space," author Alcaley "reassesses the exclusion of Semitic culture in Europe from the perspective of contemporary Arabic culture and opposing images of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict."

A tall order? Rather! Incredibly enough, Alcaley does indeed take a shot at performing this enormous task - and in what is a pioneering attempt of its kind he pulls it off impressively well.

To be sure, at times he is so wide-ranging and ambitious that he is not always easy to follow.

The 34-page introduction to the main theme of the book is fairly fully expounded. It sets the tone of the whole work and furnishes a mini-anthology of opinions and facts.

Quite a few of the 37 footnotes that follow the introduction - characteristically titled "Charting the Terrain" - are minor essays in their own right.

The same richness of material and density of reflection follow in the main body of the work - three long chapters and a 59-page postscript.

Chapter 1, "Discontinued Lines: Drafts for an Itinerary," is in 10 sections with equally alluring headings (Militant Archeology: Dispossessing Native Jews; Gazing at Palestine: Yosef Haim Brenner and Albert Antebbi; Cairo: From Umm Kulthum to Nawal Saadawi; Beirut and the Poetics of Disaster - these are only a few examples).

The chapter depicts a perplexingly broad historical-cultural landscape with the help of numerous quotations.

In the section titled "Beirut: Setting the Standards," the author manages in the space of less than 12 pages to treat the reader to full-length quotes from such eminent authorities as Albert Hourani, Charles Issawi, Makdisi, Edward Said and others.

The gist of the theme is that Beirut, racked in recent years by a terrible struggle "for survival and meaning," is also an ancient city, "like Old Cairo, Jerusalem and Damascus."

Its true significance "only comes into full play in the late 19th and 20th centuries" - playing "a key role in the growth of modernity in the Arab world, serving

as one of the focal points for cultural and political developments."

The most striking aspect of this approach, and the most useful, is the way a largely inaccessible literature is made available to the reader.

It is an accumulation so massive and formidable that it may justify the publishers' assertion that the book "will compel a revision of Jewish studies by placing contemporary Israeli culture within its Middle Eastern context and the terms of colonial, post-colonial and multicultural discourse."

Placing contemporary Israeli culture within its Middle Eastern context? My own impression is that the author of *After Jews and Arabs* doesn't quite share his publishers' optimism.

In the two concluding sections of his long postscript: "To end, to begin again," Alcaley strikes a rather somber note.

"Once," he laments, "one might have hoped that things could have been different, that Jews would continue as integral and innovative partners in the creation of Arabic culture - writing plays, poetry and novels; making music, films and art; publishing newspapers; reading and speaking and thinking and singing and dreaming in the mother tongue...."

However, he now realizes, "the extent to which ignorance of this possibility has been internalized as a truism within the discourse of consensus is truly remarkable."

Here he cites David Grossman's *Yellow Wind* on the question of language, commenting that, "In trying to locate the possible sources of Arabic influence, the very idea that a good portion of the Jewish population were native Arabic speakers remains completely unimaginable, even un-speakable. 'Jews,' after all... can never be 'Arabs.'"

What of the future? The Levant "is still a space of immense human richness, a space that can propose new models for a world rapidly losing sight of the dependence of each part upon every other part," and "by having the light from both ends of the spectrum" it is still "in a unique position."

But the author of *After Jews and Arabs* nevertheless finds it necessary to seek help from "the covenant of Sarah and Hagar."

He quotes from an essay by Egyptian-born Israeli writer Jacqueline Kahanoff: "Sarah and Hagar were rivals and victims within the framework of a patriarchal society, and while they are still among us, nothing prevents them from establishing a new covenant for themselves and their children."

Alcaley himself ends with a similar prayer:

"Somewhere between visions based on the old prophecies and the need for a new covenant, between the closed doors and the full streets, the magic of the old places and the locks of rooms without song, a space remains, a space for a poetics and a politics of the possible."

Qatar: No bother about Saudi border

QATARI officials said this week they believed a long-running territorial dispute with Saudi Arabia, reignited with border skirmishes earlier this year, could be resolved.

Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jasim Al-Thani said his country had refrained from publicizing the latest incidents "out of a desire not to escalate the dispute" and to avoid tarnishing "fraternal relations" with Saudi Arabia and its Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) partners.

Hamad spoke in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corp. which was reproduced by the official Qatari News Agency.

The tension peaked last week when Qatar boycotted a GCC ministerial meeting in Riyadh to protest Saudi Arabia's refusal to acknowledge a protest over border "provocations."

The dispute threatened to undermine the annual GCC summit meeting, scheduled to open on

December 19 in Bahrain. The Saudi-led alliance also groups Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

"We are optimistic about bypassing our differences with sisterly Saudi Arabia," the Qatari minister said.

Qatar says there have been five border incidents this year. A Qatari citizen was wounded in one of them.

Saudi Arabia denied the claims and chided Qatar for not reporting the incidents when they allegedly happened.

Hamad said the provocations included "armed interceptions, seizure of a boat and the arrest" of Qatari travelers and seamen. Some Qataris were detained for up to four weeks, he said.

In one skirmish two shots were fired, wounding a Qatari man on a hunting trip, he said. The injured man "exists, while our Saudi brothers deny that such a thing happened."

He said he had hoped that the two countries could form a joint committee to investigate the skirmishes.

Two people were killed in September 1992 when the border dispute flared into an armed conflict. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak mediated a reconciliation.

MEANWHILE, the French daily *Le Monde* said Interior Minister Charles Pasqua discussed arms sales with the Saudis during an official visit to Riyadh this week.

It said the talks centered on ways in which France could contribute to the defense, protection and surveillance of Saudi borders.

Le Monde quoted defense industry sources as saying France seeks to sell Saudi Arabia armored vehicles, radar, coastal surveillance vessels, helicopters and light observation aircraft for border surveillance. There has been no official Saudi comment on the report. (Agencies)

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Strange Syrian developments

IN the national debate over the negotiations with Syria it is only natural for each side to point to developments which seem to reinforce its position. Those who favor relinquishing the Golan Heights and the Lebanon security zone cite what chief of army intelligence Maj.-Gen. Uri Saguy repeatedly asserts: that Syria's dictator Hafez Assad has made a "strategic decision" to make peace with Israel provided Israel withdraws to the 1967 lines.

Other positive developments are also raised: the appearance in Damascus of billboards praising Assad as a peacemaker, the release of Syrian Jews, the economic projects undertaken by the Syrian government, the recent concentration on the development of Syria's tourist industry, and the announced reduction in military expenditures in relation to the GNP.

On the other hand, opponents of withdrawal point to the unpredictable nature of agreements with dictatorial regimes, the unprecedented growth of the Syrian military, the Syrian acquisition of missiles and non-conventional arms, and Assad's sponsorship of the world's most rabid terrorist groups.

Of all the negative signs, support of terrorism is perhaps the most noxious. The continuing use of terror as an instrument of state policy even during negotiations may not endanger Israel's national security, but it is difficult to reconcile such contempt for the lives of innocents with peaceful intent.

That is why it's discouraging to learn that one of Hamas's most dangerous leaders Mousa Abu Marzouk, who disappeared from the US as soon as the organization's activities in America were exposed, has established his headquarters in Damascus. After leaving the US he shuttled between

Sudan and Iran, two other hotbeds of terrorism. Now he has chosen Damascus as the most amenable place from which to run Hamas operations.

Nor is it comforting to know that Syria has promoted and honored men involved in the 1986 attempt to plant a bomb on an El Al flight in London. The bomb carrier was a Syrian agent's pregnant girlfriend, whose arrest led to the conviction and incarceration of the agent himself, Nizar Hindawi, and the expulsion of the Syrian ambassador and several embassy officials.

The mastermind of the operation was then-head of Syrian air force intelligence Mohammed Khoully, who soon after lost his job and disappeared from public view. At the time, the dismissal was seen as a sign of Assad's dissatisfaction with such terrorist ventures, and as an effort to dissociate him from the London crime. But now, as military commentator Ze'ev Schiff revealed in *Ha'aretz* yesterday, Khoully has been appointed head of the Syrian air force, and two other Syrians implicated in the bombing plot and expelled from Britain have also been promoted to key positions.

Britain protested the Khoully appointment, but the Syrian action failed to affect the European decision to remove the embargo on arms sales to Syria. Clearly, European eagerness to do business with Syria far outweighs all other considerations.

But Israel cannot afford to treat Syrian-sponsored terrorism with such insouciance. When considered concomitantly with the continuing surge in Syrian arming, such an open embrace of terrorism is a devastating signal. Syria may be willing to put up "peace billboards" in Damascus to impress Americans. But Israel had better demand more concrete signs of Syrian readiness for conciliation before it deems any deal with Damascus preferable to the status quo.

Netanyahu's Amman visit

LIKUD leader Binyamin Netanyahu's visit to Amman yesterday at King Hussein's invitation was an extraordinary event. To understand just how extraordinary, it is enough to recall that Egypt, with which Israel has had formal peace for 15 years, has never extended a similar invitation.

The most obvious reason for this gesture is that Hussein wants to show that Jordan's peace with Israel is being made - as he has put it himself - with a people, not just with a government. The opposition, representing half of Israel, has approved the treaty with Jordan with at least as much enthusiasm as the governing coalition has done. By devoting long hours to discussion with the opposition leader, Hussein and Prince Hassan are reaffirming their pledge to make peace with Israel transcend political calculations.

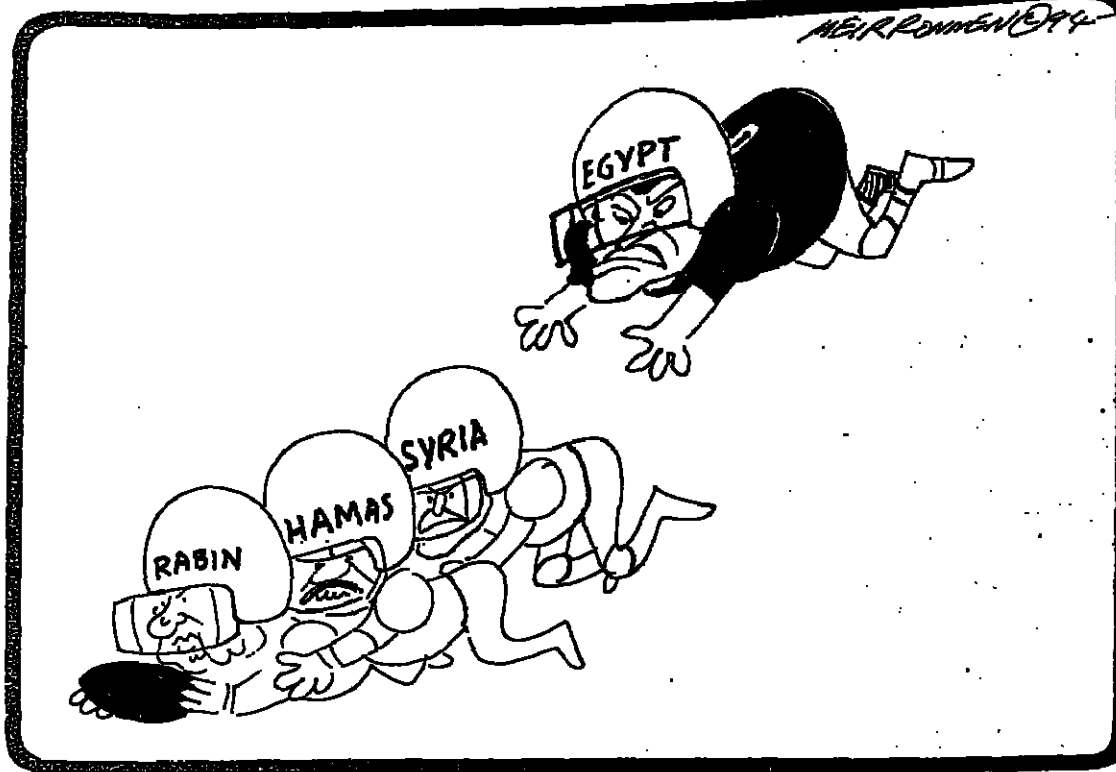
But there are subtle implications to the move as well. It is no secret that Jordan fears the establishment of a Palestinian state. Amman knows that such a state will inevitably be ruled by an intransigent PLO or Hamas dictatorship, whose first goal will be to rule Jordan, the vast majority of whose population is Palestinian.

Ever since Jordan lost Judea and Samaria in 1967, it has counted on Israel to prevent the establishment of such a state. And, indeed, until 1992 all Israeli governments were unequivocally opposed to it. But the Oslo agreement, if imple-

mented, inexorably leads to a PLO-Hamas state and gravely endangers Jordan's independence. It is possible, then, that the Jordanians see a Likud government, unwavering in its commitment to preventing the establishment of a Palestinian state, as their best guarantee against another "Black September."

That Hussein established relations with an Israeli leader so adamantly and consistently opposed to the Declaration of Principles may also carry another message. Jordan may wish to dispel the notion that only the Israeli agreement with the PLO has enabled Amman to sign a peace treaty with Israel. It is far more likely that Jordan simply reached the conclusion that its political and economic interests would best be served if the kingdom legitimated its relations with Israel.

Indeed, in many ways, Jordan's relationship with Israel in the past two decades has been far more "normal" and active than Israel-Egypt relations. Now, with free movement in both directions, it can only be hoped that Israel's democratic system will prove contagious. As Hussein seems to realize, the real hope for peace between Arabs and Jews on the two sides of the Jordan river lies in the Arabs' ability to establish democratic rule. Of all the Arab states, Jordan is closest to making such democracy a reality; which is why its peace with Israel may prove to be not only the warmest but the most stable.



Second phase blues

MOSHE ZAK

FOREIGN minister of the State of Palestine was how Farouk Kadoumi, head of the PLO's political department, introduced himself when he addressed the UN General Assembly in New York last week.

His venomous speech against Israel (which he called "deceitful, lying, and brutal") aroused the anger of several delegations, whose members approached our delegation and indicated their disgust at this wild anti-Israel outburst by a PLO leader - "as though no reconciliation agreement had been signed at Oslo."

PLO chief Yasser Arafat did nothing to dissociate himself from his colleague's crude remarks, which Kadoumi asked the UN secretary to print and disseminate as a statement by the State of Palestine's foreign minister.

Israel's Foreign Ministry, for its part, dissociated itself from statements by AIPAC, the pro-Israel lobby in Washington, criticizing the PLO leader's failure to live up to his promise to restrain Palestinian terror.

The lobby isn't an Israeli institution. It doesn't have to take orders from Jerusalem. Twelve years ago, it supported the Reagan Plan for an Arab-Israeli settlement, despite its outright rejection by premier Menachem Begin and the Knesset throwing it out by a decisive majority.

In its report to Congress a few days ago, the State Department says fit to lay emphasis on the fact that Arafat had not fulfilled his commitment to annul the anti-Israel clauses in the Palestinian Covenant. But in Jerusalem, the government is showing sensitivity to Arafat's constraints and not making a public issue of his breach of promise.

Arafat is behaving quite differently. He isn't prepared to consider Israel's difficulties. He is demanding immediate implementation of the Oslo agreement, including immediate IDF withdrawal from the cities and towns of Judea and Samaria, before elections are held for the Palestinian Authority's council.

Arafat doesn't care whether by-

pass roads allowing direct access to Jewish settlements or IDF bases are paved by them. The tangible end of occupation in Nabulus, Ramallah, Jenin and Hebron is what he needs to contest the elections.

The IDF cannot withdraw from the towns in Judea and Samaria without endangering the Jewish settlements scattered throughout the area. But the government is being careful not to undermine Arafat's highly precarious standing.

The government is facing a difficult, complex dilemma. It cannot militarily proclaim a delay in the IDF's redeployment, without incurring blame from the US for violating the agreement.

On the other hand, it cannot at the moment undertake the with-

drawal from the urban population centers. The only way out of the maze would be secret, quiet talks with the aim of finding a compromise.

But the government has preferred the thunder-and-lightning approach. Reports of various options as discussed by a limited number of ministers have become a major performance, with the ministers vying among themselves to bask in the brightest spotlight.

EVEN ON Shabbat, the day before security experts outlined to the cabinet the problems involved in carrying out the second phase of the agreement, all the electronic media were already reporting that a majority of ministers supported the proposal that some Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria be evacuated to make IDF protection along their access roads unnecessary.

The next day, after hearing the assessment by the chief of staff, the police inspector-general and the head of the General Security Service, the ministers did not shy away from the microphones - which had come free with the end of the Druse protest outside the Prime Minister's Office - but rushed to explain their plans without waiting for today's cabinet meeting.

In their enthusiasm, the ministers blocked any prospect, however minimal, of a quiet dialogue with Arafat on the issue. Now he can conclude from their remarks that his stubbornness on this clause of the agreement will earn him a bonus: the evacuation of settlements in addition to an IDF withdrawal from the towns.

Moreover, Arafat correctly estimates that Yitzhak Rabin is holding on to all the settlements, even those to whose establishment he did not agree, as a bargaining card in the final settlement. Arafat understands that Rabin is working for a territorial compromise in Judea and Samaria; the broad spread of settlements there affords the premier maneuvering ability regarding the future borders, to prevent a return to the 1967 lines.

Arafat assumes that if all the settlements stay in place, Rabin will want, as compensation for quitting far-flung, isolated settlements, a quid pro quo: the retention of Gush Etzion, Ma'aleh Adumim, Ariel and Karnei Shomron.

The PLO leader understands Rabin's tactics. Not so the ministers who rush to the microphones and speak before they think, and make declarations before they have studied the basic facts. They are so enamored of the Oslo agreement that they aren't prepared to make any effort to amend that "pact full of holes," as the premier called it.

The passion with which certain ministers are embracing that flawed agreement is strangling the political process. More accurately, the ministers are pushing the difficult, ramified negotiations with the PLO to the brink of a crisis.

There are valid pros and cons on the question of the proper extent of the High Court's intervention in the political arena. The justices have given ample proof of their own sensitivity to that issue. There are certainly dangers attendant on too deep an interference by an unelected judicial body in the workings of elected political institutions.

But the danger of nonintervention is even greater when elected bodies display a tendency to behave illegally and undemocratically. The need to restrain the powers of majorities in elected institutions is the reason democratic societies have constitutions and courts to interpret them.

In our present situation, judicial oversight of the political process is crucial as we move toward direct election of the prime minister, without a clear division of powers between executive and legislature.

The writer comments on public affairs.

Texan tragedy

WILEY A. HALL

IF police accounts are true, 34-year-old Shirley Draper of Wimberly, Texas, used appallingly poor judgment in September when she allowed her two daughters to ride in a car driven by their father, who was drunk at the time.

And she paid a terrible penalty for her lapse of judgment: Both daughters, as well as the father, were killed when he lost control of his car and plunged into a three-meter-deep body of water near Wimberly.

But has Draper paid enough? Apparently not. On November 13, a Hays County grand jury charged her with two counts of injury to a child and two counts of endangering a child.

Prosecutors say the mother should be held responsible for her children's deaths even though she was not the driver and was not even in the car at the time. She

faces life imprisonment if convicted.

Draper, who denies that she knew the driver of the car - her husband - was intoxicated, is free on \$5,000 bail. She has been in seclusion since her indictment.

According to police, Gregory Cook had been arrested three times for drunk driving since 1992. In July, his car was equipped with an ignition-lock device that was supposed to make it impossible for him to drive the car without first taking a breath test.

On September 25, Cook had been visiting his daughters, Marissa, eight, and Shama, 10, and offered to treat them to breakfast at a nearby restaurant. Police say he had been drinking heavily that morning, and that he asked Marissa to blow into the breath-testing device to circumvent the ignition lock.

Police allege Draper knew of this, yet allowed the girls to ride with their father anyway - a charge, Draper denies.

En route home from the restaurant, Cook apparently lost control, broadsided a tree and plunged down a deep embankment into the water. An autopsy revealed he had more than twice the blood-alcohol level considered intoxicating by law.

PROSECUTORS want to make an example of Draper. And Mothers Against Drunk Driving plan to use the case as part of a national campaign to stiffen penalties against parents who endanger their children, either by driving drunk or by allowing them to ride in a car with an intoxicated driver.

For instance, the group would like to see the penalty for driving while intoxicated doubled if a child is present in the car.

MADD also proposes that prosecutors classify the transportation of minors by intoxicated adults as child abuse.

Prosecutor Marcos Hernandez Jr. said he hopes the indictment "will do good, and someone out there will not let this happen again."

Adds Jon Posey, president of the Heart of Texas chapter of MADD: "You don't put your children in dangerous situations. You don't leave them in a burning house. You don't throw them in the middle of the ocean. You don't put them in the car with a drunk driver."

Too many people continue to take drunk driving lightly. But Draper does not need to be incarcerated to drive the point home.

It bothers me that US courts are so often used these days to "send messages." MADD is not the only group to demand ever-stiffer criminal sanctions, and drunk driving isn't the only issue.

Lost in the current passion to punish is the notion that people are best motivated by education, rather than fear. And that justice is best served when people are treated as individuals, not as symbols through which messages can be sent. When rage rules instead of compassion, that cannot be healthy.

Suppose prosecutors had held a news conference after the accident, outlined the facts of the case - including Draper's alleged culpability - and then added, "But we will not press charges. She has suffered enough."

Wouldn't most people still have gotten the point; and wouldn't the reminder about the dangers of drunk driving have been just as poignant?

I think so. The tragedy speaks for itself.

(Baltimore Evening Sun)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE FUTURE OF THE PEACE PROCESS

Sir, - Palestinian strategic thinking is based on the creation of an independent Palestinian state in the land occupied by Israel since 1967, with its capital East Jerusalem.

The PNA has started this process, with the declaration of independence on November 15, 1988. This strategic thinking has laid the foundation for strategic friction between the secular, pragmatic sector and the Islamic-oriented sector within Palestinian society, both inside and outside Palestine.

The PNA and the Palestinians who embarked on and supported the peace strategy are facing the dilemma which can ultimately prevent this process from reaching its goal, taking the whole area with it back to conflict. This dilemma is of Israeli making, especially as it is inherent in the Oslo agreement. It is the non-removal of the Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, particularly those in Gaza and Hebron.

The settlement issue is taking up most of the time of the Palestinian leadership and its constituency. It is also giving the Palestinian opposition its most important card, in its confrontation with the PNA. This in turn prevents the PNA from focusing on the issue of institution building, necessary to produce the economical and social change required from it on the ground, now.

The violence which the world saw in Gaza on Friday, November 18, can be a turning point in the history of this area. This could be the lesson from which we all can learn, especially those on the Israeli side. The Israelis should begin discussions with the Palestinians on the final status, or voluntarily begin to dismantle and withdraw from the Gaza settlements now. If this does not happen, we may see an increased number of violent acts, both in the occupied territories and in Israel itself. This will only lead to further strengthening the radical elements on both sides and eventually make this peace process unworkable.

The withdrawal of the settlements from Gaza initially will work to the advantage of Israel and the Palestinian people, no longer giving the Palestinian opposition a reason to oppose the PNA. Furthermore, the PNA can concentrate on the business of providing the changes our people are expecting on the ground in the fields of economy, education, health, freedom of movement, etc.

It is widely believed that the peace process will not succeed unless the Palestinian and Israeli people begin to see and feel the changes and the rewards of this process.

WALID M. AWAD,
Palestine Institute of Management
Ramallah.

MENTAL ILLNESS

Sir, - In her article of October 30, "Pills dissolve the stigma of mental illness," Judy Siegel-Itzkovich claims that most if not all cases of "mental illness" can be treated by the use of sophisticated psychotropic medication. Through our experience at the Gaza Community Mental Health Program (GCMHP) in treatment of patients in Gaza suffering from mental health problems, we have found the author's assertion to be too simplistic, medically oriented and diminishes the importance of other non-medical methods of drug in deal with anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Our experience in GCMHP shows individual psychotherapy jointly with family interactions leads to rates of improvement as substantial as those produced by psycho-active medication, when many patients are asking for sympathy, a good listener and a motivated therapist.

ABDEL HAMID AFANA,
Gaza Community Mental Health
Program
Gaza.

DRIVING MANNERS

Sir, - With reference to Irving Kett's article of November 20, "Prophet before his time," I agree that Israel needs a well-trained, dedicated roadway law enforcement agency patterned after the California Highway Patrol.

This agency should also supervise all private driving education schools and those conducting driving tests and issuing driving licenses. It seems to me that Israeli drivers are not taught proper driving courtesy and manners from the first day they sit behind the wheel of a car. The horn is not an alternative to the brake pedal.

Upper Nazareth. STAN HAYES

Deri's disdain for red lines

YOSEF GOELL

IF there were a Nobel Prize for hutzpa, ousted interior minister Aryeh Deri would likely be accompanying Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres to Oslo.

Deri has lashed out at the High Court of Justice, accusing it of dangerously exceeding its legal powers by the extent to which it interferes in the political arena. And, Deri added, the court's composition is unrepresentative of Israeli society because it doesn't include enough religious or women justices, and no Arabs at all.

Both these criticisms are valid. But they are laughable when they come from the head of a political party which proudly proclaims its ideologically undemocratic nature and total subservience to an unelected guru, former Sephardi chief rabbi Ovadia Yosef.

Deri attacks the High Court for meddling in political matters, when he is the first to welcome Yosef's meddling in political and security affairs, in which the rabbi is as knowledgeable as Rabin is in the intricacies of Halacha.

Despite Deri's apparent defense of women's interests and those of other underrepresented groups, Shas's religious ideology is totally biased against women, while its political raison d'être stems from similar prejudices against religious Ashkenazim.

While Shas does not spurn the votes of deluded women, Ashkenazim, or Arabs, it would be unthinkable for the party to include representatives of any of these categories in its governing bodies, or in its Knesset or municipal fac-

ties. The occasion for Deri's diatribe against the High Court was its hearings on the legality of the proposed coalition agreement between the prime minister and Shas, which would give Yosef the ultimate power to circumvent High Court decisions on the unconstitutionality of religious legislation.

THE CONFRONTATION between the conflicting interests and life styles of Orthodox and secular Israelis has always been a source

The High Court has a crucial role to play in safeguarding democracy

of friction. The wisdom evinced by representatives of the different sides in working out accommodations and a modus vivendi between these conflicting interests has expressed itself in a mutual recognition of red lines which neither side should cross.

The problem with Shas, a relatively new and inexperienced political body, is that it is disdainful of the need to maintain those boundaries, which alone make co-existence possible.

There is no basic conflict between Israel's Jewish and demo-

cratic natures. There is, however, a basic clash between being committed to making Israel a halachic state - as the ultra-Orthodox and some of the Orthodox are - and ensuring the democratic nature of the Jewish state.

In a situation where the leaders of our major political parties have provided ample proof of their cynical readiness to sell out the interests of the majority of Israelis to the religious parties, the task of safeguarding democracy often falls by default on the High Court of Justice.

There are valid pros and cons on the question of the proper extent of the High Court's intervention in the political arena. The justices have given ample proof of their own sensitivity to that issue. There are certainly dangers attendant on too deep an interference by an unelected judicial body in the workings of elected political institutions.

But the danger of nonintervention is even greater when elected bodies display a tendency to behave illegally and undemocratically. The need to restrain the powers of majorities in elected institutions is the reason democratic societies have constitutions and courts to interpret them.

In our present situation, judicial oversight of the political process is crucial as we move toward direct election of the prime minister, without a clear division of powers between executive and legislature.

The writer comments on public affairs.

Mother-and-child reunion is only a cease-fire away

Operation Reunite is a UN project that traces the thousands of missing children due to the Bosnia war, Snjezana Vukic reports

ADISA Muratagic, 10, glanced at broken windows and a shattered wall in her small apartment, one of very few that survived the fighting on Bulevar Street, the former front line in Mostar.

"I'm home with my Mum and sister, and that's all that matters," she said.

After nearly a year away, Adisa is back home, where a March cease-fire between Moslems and Croats brought an uneasy peace between ethnic factions whose fighting wrecked much of the city. For much of the time she was gone, she and her family feared the worst.

She was evacuated to Zagreb after her arm was hit by a sniper's bullet last New Year's Eve. Then she went to a rehabilitation center in Krapinske Toplice, in northern Croatia, and waited in vain for her mother's call.

Adisa worried that her mother, Angelina, was dead.

But it turned out her mother simply had the wrong telephone number. Without a phone of her own, or contacts who could give her the right information, Mrs. Muratagic could only hope.

"I simply prayed to God that someone was taking good care of Adisa," said Mrs. Muratagic, 32, an ethnic Croat whose Slavic Moslem husband died seven years before Bosnia's war began in April 1992.

Mother and daughter were reunited via the International Red Cross's system for relaying messages through its delegates. Despite the tension still gripping Mostar, and the danger of fighting erupting with nearby Serbs, Adisa returned home in September.

She is one of the fortunate children struck off a list compiled by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees of some 2,000 "unaccompanied" children - young ref-



Pehka Sprzo (left) and her husband Ismet (right), stand outside their Sarajevo house last month with their children, Nejra (second left) and Mustafa, who came back home in August after spending two years with their grandmother in Zagreb. (AP)

ugees known to be separated from their parents.

Last March, UNHCR announced Operation Reunite, a project aimed at tracing what the agency estimated could be as many as 40,000 missing children. Computer centers were set up across former Yugoslavia and in Paris to coordinate the search.

Later calculations lowered the estimate of possible lost children to 10,000. But the agency does not have nearly that many names because registrations have been conducted in only a handful of countries and are incomplete.

Few parents have used the centers. One problem is poor communications, like those that kept Adisa and her mother apart.

Word of the system has not reached many refugees who straggled into cities from rural areas or who still live in the hinterlands, struggling for survival under siege or amid warfare.

"This system will work better when peace comes, when all roads will be reopened and newspapers will reach all areas," said Alexandra Zivkovic of Zagreb's Unaccompanied Children in Exile aid group.

The war in Bosnia has displaced an estimated 2.1 million people from their homes. Thousands of parents scrambled to send their children from combat zones. Statistics justify their fears.

Approximately 17,000 children are among the 200,000 people re-

ported killed or missing in the war, according to Bosnia's Moslem-led government. Some 34,500 more children were wounded, the government says.

DESPITE THAT toll, some families have been determined to reunite as fighting ebbed in some areas after the Moslem-Croat cease-fire and the end to the Serb bombardment of Sarajevo.

In August, 17-year-old Nejra Sprzo and her brother, Mustafa, 16, returned to their battered home in government-held Sarajevo, 500 meters from the front line. They had left Sarajevo in April 1992, expecting to return the following week.

After more than two years of

safety living with their grandmother in Zagreb, the teenagers and grandmother came back.

But the bus service between Zagreb and Sarajevo - which resumed after Serbs stopped artillery attacks - took them only as far as Pazaric, about 15 kilometers from Sarajevo.

Their anxious father walked out of the city then trekked back with his children and a guide past Serb positions on dangerous Mount Igman. They crawled through the improvised tunnel below Sarajevo airport, moving carefully and silently to avoid Serb fighters and UN peacekeepers.

"I lived two years for a return, and I don't regret it," Nejra said. "I chose war and a besieged city

instead of peace in our refugee exile in Zagreb, but I feel I made the right decision."

"We thought it would be only for a week or two and wanted to get them out of the war zone, but it lasted too long," said Nejra's mother, Pehka, 39. "The danger is less now, so we decided it's better to share it than to be separated even longer."

The risk is high, since Nejra has yet to learn war rules.

"Two days ago, I walked through the streets, and somewhere close a mortar fell. Everybody started to run, but I just stood there," she said. "I didn't feel fear; I just cannot perceive the danger."

She is scared only by the blood

stains on the road to her school, she said.

The parents of 14-year-old Suada Omerovic and her sister, Mirsada, 12, also tempted their children back, although their home in the village of Ribnica in north-central Bosnia was destroyed by Bosnian Serbs. Fighting still rages near their shelter with friends in nearby Maoca village.

"They said they had already forgotten what their daughters look like," said the girls' aunt, Rasema Omerovic, 43, who cared for them for two years in Zagreb.

In that time, the girls talked only twice to their mother when she managed to call with someone's mobile telephone.

"I do not know where and how they would live - there's still fighting there, there's no school, no food nor money," the aunt said. "But they were so impatient to get together again."

DINA HRBINIC, 13, would be happy for such a chance.

In the spring of 1992, Bosnian Serbs expelled all non-Serb inhabitants of Dina's native Foca, in southeastern Bosnia. Dina and her handicapped brother, Elvedin, 11, walked more than 65 km with their aunt and uncle before they could get a bus to Croatia.

Dina's mother, Magdula, was in the hospital in a part of Foca cut off by Serb forces. Her father died years ago.

Since then, Dina has sent a dozen messages to parts of Bosnia where her mother was rumored to be. Negative answers came from everywhere, except Gorazde. No reply at all came from that eastern enclave isolated by Serb troops, and Dina clings to the possibility that her mother found refuge there.

The separation and hopeless search, and the burden of refugee life, caused depression that recently hospitalized Dina for 15 days.

"She began seeing her mother's face through the window. She would run out, but, of course, it was just imagination," said her uncle, Zaim Aljic. "And more often, she would hear her mother's voice calling her."

Dina lost interest in anything, became reluctant to speak, and sat for hours.

"She never cried, she never showed her emotions, ever since we left Foca," Aljic said. "She was just thinking and thinking about her mother, torturing herself."

"Only hope we will be with my Mum again. When the war ends," Dina whispered. (AP)

Russian editors fear capitalism's price tag

It's been four years since the Russian press won its freedom from government censorship. But as the heady days of liberal democracy give way to a more familiar order, editors are wondering how much longer it will last.

"No one will talk about this subject now, and do you know why? Out of fear. Fear for themselves, fear for their families. People are being killed for that sort of thing," said one young reporter, speaking on condition of anonymity.

In October, a 27-year-old investigative reporter was blown to pieces in his newsroom when the suitcase he thought contained documents proving army corruption turned out to be a bomb.

Officials reacted without marked sympathy. As thousands of liberal intellectuals thronged behind Dmitry Kholodov's coffin, President Boris Yeltsin weighed in with an elder statesman's view.

After rather perfunctory condolences, he issued the latest of a series of strictures against "irresponsible" journalists reporting unfavorably on the activities of politicians.

He suggested creating a system of licenses for journalists, which he said would protect them from violence - but which could be withdrawn if they failed to toe the government line.

Two years ago, Yeltsin stifled an official report calling his attention to the same army corruption Kholodov was investigating.

Journalists say their next battle for a free press will be financial. Russian banks and firms now own big stakes in newspapers, Vanora Bennett reports

Although he made a point of defending his defense minister from allegations that the army was behind Kholodov's murder, the president bowed to growing pressure after the reporter's death and sacked the deputy minister at the heart of the scandal.

It was a melancholy coda to the era of freedom ushered in by the Soviet press law of June 1990, which guaranteed reporters the right to write and allowed private individuals to set up their own newspapers.

Since then, the press has started publishing stories and dumped the old practice of printing pages of turgid political speeches in full. The press has become interesting to read.

Now politicians gearing up for parliamentary elections next year and presidential elections in 1996 are keen to reassert control over a press which no longer depends fully on them for its existence.

THREE YEARS into capitalism, editors say the next war for freedom of speech will be fought on a different front from the past struggles with communist authorities.

Economic, rather than political, battle lines are already being drawn up.

Most media organizations became joint-stock companies in 1992. But they still depend on state goodwill for printing, paper and distribution, monopolies where costs have soared way above world prices.

"Can it be by chance that everything in this country has been privatized except these things?" asked Pavel Gusev, ex-boss of murdered reporter Kholodov and editor-in-chief of the daily *Moskovsky Komsomol*.

"It's obvious that they want to keep us on a short rein."

As the political elite swings away from radical liberalism to more centrist policies, wealthy post-Soviet banks and firms have bought big stakes in media groups.

The commercial firms are the real danger to press freedom, said Igor Golumbivsky, editor of the liberal daily *Izvestia*.

"We know we are being pursued on all sides: by the government, the administration and commercial groups," he said. "The state is limited in what it can

do, but private firms are not. They understand how influential the press is."

Many entrepreneurs have close ties with political groups and are likely to encourage their papers to sponsor their politicians when voting time comes round.

Golumbivsky said the firms which had offered lavish funding to *Izvestia* tended to want a say in what went into the paper.

"I tell them I can't take their money. So they've stopped coming to us with investment projects," he said.

To ward off interference, Golumbivsky has kept a majority of *Izvestia* shares in the hands of his editorial staff. Another 28 percent is held by small investors.

The Olbi finance company, allied to reformist ex-prime minister Yegor Gaidar, holds just 6.8 percent. Golumbivsky says it is unlikely to be able to increase its holding.

The most widely known commercial investor in the press is Most Group, led by entrepreneur Vladimir Gusinsky. Among its interests it numbers a bank, a building group, airline and security-

guards sections and an investments department.

Most Group also owns majority stakes in the liberal daily *Sevodaynyy*, Ekho Moskvy radio station and the independent television channel NTV. Gusinsky, a liberal, is close to trusted Yeltsin ally Yuri Luzhkov, the mayor of Moscow.

Gusinsky has said he is afraid of what would happen to Russia - and to new entrepreneurs like himself - if conservatives, communists or nationalists win the next elections. But he insists he does not want editorial control of his press.

Sevodaynya's commercial director, Marina Latysheva, agreed that Most Group did not put pressure on journalists to take a particular editorial stance.

"They've chosen like-minded people for their reporters, whose views on developing Russia's economy and politics are the same as those of Most Group. So to say they dictate how to write would be quite wrong," she said. (Reuters)

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Dalia Hardof Benberg

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1994

Frenkel: Cutting taxes a necessity

Bank of Israel governor also stresses economy shows no signs of recession

CUTTING taxes is an economic imperative, even if it means an attendant cut in government services, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel said yesterday.

Frenkel also stressed that not only was the economy showing absolutely no signs of recession, but there were even indications of overheating, such as the strong growth in GNP.

"A large portion of Israel's citizens would be happy to keep their income in their pockets and use it as they wish," he responded, when asked how people would react if tax cuts engendered cuts in services. "And whoever says it's hard [to cut taxes] is simply testifying about his order of priorities."

Frenkel therefore advocated drawing up a multi-year plan for tax cuts which would have binding force.

Otherwise, he said, chances were too great the plan would not

EVELYN GORDON

be followed if unexpected expenses cropped up, like those created this year by the peace process and the new public-sector wage agreements.

"Recently, the [process of] reducing the tax burden has ceased," he warned.

Frenkel was speaking after a Knesset Finance Committee meeting on the state of the economy, at which he defended his recent decision to jack up interest rates — to the approval of most of the MKs.

Only committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor) expressed reservations about the move, saying that interest rate rises, like any medicine, must be administered with caution — especially since it primarily hurts households and small businesses.

Frenkel said there were indications that his interest-rate policy

was beginning to have an effect on inflation — the pace has stopped accelerating, and there was even a decline in the money supply (M1) in October.

However, he said, an uncompromising war against inflation — via both interest rates and cuts in government spending — is still necessary.

"The people who pay the real price of inflation are the ordinary citizens," he said.

Meir Sheerit (Likud) suggested that Frenkel look into eliminating the practice of overdrafts, since they produce inflation by encouraging people to consume beyond their means.

Frenkel responded that while the overdraft — which exists almost nowhere else in the world — does create a culture of spending beyond one's means, it would be very difficult to eliminate precisely because it is so widespread.

Koor Ind. plans to participate in tender for Israel Chemicals

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

KOOR Industries plans to participate in the tender to purchase a controlling stake in Israel Chemicals (ICL), Finance Ministry sources said yesterday.

It intends to do so in partnership with a consortium made up of Shamrock, an investment firm for the Disney family, Poslim Investments, and Dankner Investments.

Finance Ministry sources said Koor has submitted a request to

take part in the government tender to sell 24.9 percent of the firm.

A Koor spokesman confirmed that the company is examining the possibility of joining the Shamrock-Poslim-Dankner consortium. The companies will each have an equal share in ICL.

The planned purchase is in the framework of Koor's objective to

diversify and expand operations.

Last week, the company informed the Finance and Transport ministries of its plans to purchase a controlling interest in ICL, in partnership with other investors.

The three other consortiums bidding for a controlling share in ICL are the Israel Corporation, headed by businessman Shani El-

senberg; a group led by businessman Ted Arison; and a consortium made up of US investors.

The groups are currently engaged in preparing a due-diligence review of ICL to place a bid with the Government Companies Authority, which hopes to sell the shares by the end of January.

After the sale, the government plans to issue 22% of ICL's shares overseas.

Fidelity Magellan cancels '94 dividend

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Fidelity Magellan Fund, the largest US mutual fund, stunned shareholders on Monday by canceling its year-end distribution — apparently the first such setback in its 31-year history.

Fidelity Investments, the largest US mutual-fund (unit trust) company, had previously estimated that Magellan would make a year-end payment of \$4.32 a share.

"We made the error in our cal-

culation process," said Jane Jamieson, spokeswoman for the Boston-based company, which manages \$404 billion in assets. "I'm not aware of this type of error occurring before."

She declined to describe the nature of the error or who made it, but added that "it's possible other [Fidelity] funds won't make a year-end distribution" either.

Fidelity, which distributes all the income and capital gains on its

funds every year, usually changes its estimates in a regular review as the payment dates approach. But "it's usually by a small amount," Jamieson said.

In a statement, Fidelity assured its customers that the mistake does not reflect any recent portfolio activity, and that none of their accounts were affected.

Fidelity Magellan has assets of \$30.6b.

The fund, which established its

reputation in the high-flying 1980s, had a distribution of \$4.33 at year-end 1993. It paid out \$2.77 a share in income and capital gains in May, in its regular semiannual payment.

The error on the high-profile fund raised questions about the performance of mutual funds, whose assets have swollen as investors sought alternatives to low-yield savings accounts over the past two years.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Ratio Oil comes up dry at Gan Yavneh D-4 site: Ratio Oil has completed work at the Gan Yavneh D-4 (or Ratio D-1) site and come up dry. Tests conducted at the drilling site, which reached a depth of 2,820 meters, showed no positive signs.

Ratio must still decide if findings at the Gan Yavneh-4 site present any commercial value. The company will begin execution of geophysical surveys within the coming weeks at the Dimona, Tzofar, and Basalt sites.

Bezek declares 199 service a success: Bezek announced it saves the economy NIS 212 million a year by allowing customers to carry out business over the phone instead of coming into Bezek branches. A survey conducted for Bezek shows that since the telecommunications company established its 199 toll-free service two years ago, the number of customers appearing in Bezek's 30 branch offices has dropped 94 percent.

Company spokesman Zecharya Mizrotsky, who initiated the campaign, said 31,000 people used to visit Bezek offices on an average day. Now, most clerks who used to receive the public have been moved to 199 duties.

The 199 number will soon operate around the clock instead of closing in the early evening.

Meir Ezra sells holdings in Profit Construction Ind.: Meir Ezra has sold its holdings in Profit Construction Industries, representing 14.6 percent of outstanding share, to Top Class Corporation for NIS 3.12 million.

Tenza announces increase in its investment in Plazer: Tezuza - a Fairchild Technology Venture announced yesterday it has increased its investment in Plazer by \$48,000. Tezuza now holds 21.7 percent of Plazer, representing a total investment of \$479,250, with an option to increase investment up to 26%. Plazer develops products for use by the print industry, specifically the short-run color market.

Nation's electronics sector grows 13%: The country's electronics sector has grown 13 percent this year, the Electronics Manufacturers Association announced yesterday. Annual turnover rose to \$5.2 billion from \$4.6b. last year, the association said. It estimated electronics exports rose to \$3.75b. from \$3.2b.

United Mizrahi Bank introduces new savings plan: United Mizrahi Bank yesterday introduced a new savings plan, Tzamed Tesura, which is intended to help customers exchange one car for another. At the end of the savings plan, customers can receive an index-linked loan to purchase a car at an interest rate 0.5% lower than the standard rate.

Local hotel chains in talks with Jordan's Hotelier Association: Several leading local hotel chains are in negotiations with Jordan's Hotelier Association for cooperation in marketing and sales. Association President Michael Nazal was in Tel Aviv yesterday to meet representatives of Moriah Hotels. Nazal, whose operations include the five-star Philadelphia Hotel in Amman, is also interested in a buyer-seller exhibit at the hotel in February.

Galcom invests in Young Business Forum Holdings: Galcom yesterday announced it had invested NIS 433,350 in the Young Business Forum Holdings and NIS 166,000 in Young Business Forum Investments.

BBDO buys 20% of Gitam

ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

IN what represents the first major US-Israel alliance in the advertising field, international advertising powerhouse BBDO Worldwide has taken a 20 percent equity interest in Gitam Image Promotion Systems.

Gitam, founded in 1979 and located in Ramat Gan, has now taken on the name Gitam/BBDO.

In addition to advertising, Gitam operates a public relations department and engages in marketing and consumer research.

The move is an outgrowth of the growing eagerness of multinational corporations to establish affiliations here, following the peace process and the resulting erosion of the Arab boycott.

It comes on the heels of formalized affiliate relationships set up between local accountancy concerns and the Big Six accountant firms that serve the world's largest companies.

"The constructive political developments of the past few years in the Middle East and Israel make this an increasingly promising region for major multinationals," Allen Rosenshine, chairman and CEO of BBDO Worldwide, told *The Jerusalem Post* in a telephone interview from New York. "Israel's dynamic consumer economy is creating opportunities for advertisers, and our relationship with Gitam will allow us to better serve those clients with interest in this growing market."

BBDO maintains relationships, equity, and non-equity based, in 65 other countries around the world — including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lebanon, and the United Arab Emirates. The firm's networks took in \$5.7 billion in billings last year.

"Today represents the beginning of a new and exciting chapter in the history of Israel's advertising industry," said Mosh Teumim, the president of Gitam. He said BBDO "clearly stands for the advertising world's highest creative and professional standards, which we at Gitam will work to

Beginning of a trend?

ALLEN Rosenshine says his multinational advertising agency might be the first to acquire a stake in an Israeli firm, but he doubts it will be the last.

"I'd be very very surprised if a number of other agencies did not build equity relationships in Israel," the chairman and CEO of BBDO Worldwide told *The Jerusalem Post* in a telephone interview from New York.

Rosenshine presides over one of the world's largest and most prestigious agencies, which boasts a client list that includes Apple Computers, General Electric, Gillette, and Visa International.

The decision to build a relationship with an Israeli firm, Rosenshine said, was driven by the interests of their clients.

"BBDO is a multinational company servicing major multinational corporations, providing services for clients who increasingly want to market and advertise in Israel," he said. "So it behooved us to link up with a firm in Israel."

Though BBDO considered other agencies, he said Gitam was their clear preference from the start. The two agencies had cooperated in the past on multinational accounts, such as Delta Airlines and Pepsi-Cola.

Day-to-day operation and management of Gitam will continue as in the past, he said. "The areas we will influence most will be multinational business, where Israel is not the center of the client's operations."

In the majority of the 65 countries in which BBDO maintains a presence, the mul-

carry forward in Israel."

Teumim gave Gitam's employees extra reason to celebrate yesterday — to mark the deal with BBDO, he announced he will fly all the agency's workers to New York for a four-day celebration.



BBDO Worldwide Chairman-CEO Allen Rosenshine.

tinational maintains an equity interest in the foreign firm.

"Twenty percent is our starting point when we begin to build an equity arrangement, and we then agree to periodically review the equity situation," he said.

Going global is a growing concern for US-based advertising firms — particularly since IBM shook the advertising world several months ago with its announcement that it would consolidate all its advertising work in one firm.

With the growing development of an international popular culture, said Rosenshine, it has become easier to create advertising campaigns that are successful in several countries and to "communicate on lines everybody can understand."

Still, he said, local expertise will always be necessary. "The more you want your campaign to have an emotional component, the more you have to be tuned into the particular culture," he said.

AKS

State will pay costs of writing software for capital gains tax

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE government will pay the costs of writing the software for the banks to collect capital gains taxes at the source, Income Tax Commissioner Doron Levy said yesterday.

"There is no reason to pass off the collection costs on investors," said Levy. If the banks were left to pay for those costs, they would pass them on to the investors, he explained.

The Treasury, however, will only bear the one-time start-up costs and not the ongoing costs.

Levy rejected criticism that actual revenues from the new tax will be more than offset by the collection costs.

Tax experts have estimated the capital gains tax will only bring in NIS 50 million, and not NIS 500m. a year as the Treasury expects.

Moreover, Association of Banks in Israel director-general Freddy Vidder projects that collecting the tax will cost between NIS 40m. and NIS 100m. a year.

The Treasury stands behind its NIS 500m. revenue estimate based on a review of stock market activity in the preceding seven years, said Levy.

Although the law will become effective on January 1, the banks are not expected to be ready to collect the tax at the source immediately. Consequently, after a two- to three-month period, the banks will collect the tax retroactively.

Should individuals close their accounts before the banks are ready to collect the tax at the source, the Income Tax Authority will require them to file an annual tax return, Levy said.

Asked whether the Treasury will propose soon to cut taxes, Levy responded that the ministry will review the source of the growth and, where possible, rec-

ommend cuts. Levy noted that the Knesset did not substantially change the Treasury's tax proposal.

He clarified that Israeli stocks trading on Wall Street will be taxed beginning January at the same rate as those locally traded, and foreign stocks trading in Tel Aviv — such as Evergreen — will be subject to the same 35 percent tax that applies to any foreign stock.

Investors not choosing to offset their losses will pay a straight 10% tax on inflation-adjusted profits accumulated since January 1, 1995. Those choosing to offset their losses will pay 20% on their profits and be required to file a shortened tax form showing their profits, losses, tax withheld, and whether they owe taxes or are entitled to a refund.

Investors will pay a 15% tax on profits from the redemption of mutual fund participation shares.

The Knesset adopted a change to the withholding tax on Mapo options which enables investors to request the tax authorities to lower the withholding tax on those options to 5%.

Maof investors, however, are still required to pay either a 10% or 20% tax depending which track they choose.

The Treasury is preparing legislation that will not require investors who do not offset capital losses to declare their stock market gains in their tax statements.

Levy noted that short-term, non-indexed shekel instruments of up to a year — such as *Makam* bonds or Treasury *Gilon* bonds — will continue to be exempted from the capital gains tax, as will provident and training funds.

Other bonds issued beginning next year will be subject to the new tax, while bonds issued before that will remain exempt.

Rafael workers in Haifa hold two-hour strike

RACHEL NEIMAN

RAFEL workers in Haifa continued the sanctions they began on Monday, holding a two-hour strike yesterday.

The Haifa-region Histadrut ordered the company's 5,000 work-

ers to go home Monday at 2:00 p.m., two-and-a-half hours before quitting time, following management's suspension of Rafael workers' council member Shlomo Bok.

The suspension occurred following a meeting between representatives of the workers' council and Rafael general manager Yitzhak Gat, who was locked inside his office when the situation became unruly.

The police were called in to rescue him. Following the melee, Bok was suspended on the grounds of inciting the workers to riot.

Last month some 20 Rafael workers were fired, a move the Histadrut said was unnecessary.

The Histadrut said that more than 120 workers have been fired, violating an agreement between the Histadrut, Rafael and the workers' council.

Manufacturers: Cancel customs on meat exports to EC

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Manufacturers Association yesterday called on the Finance and Industry and Trade ministries to cancel customs on processed meat product exports to the European Community.

The request followed the Industry and Trade Ministry's recent decision to begin granting import licenses to meat importers.

Arie Weingard, chairman of the manufacturers' meat producing division, said granting import licenses to kosher and non-kosher meat importers exposes local producers to competition from abroad.

He said Israel's meat products are subject to customs duty on products exported to the European Community and European Free Trade Association countries.

Weingard said the expected joining of EFTA states to the EC

and the resulting cancellation of customs between the EC and EFTA will have a negative influence on Israeli meat exports.

"Up until now, the levy on Israeli exports to EFTA states was similar to the customs placed on EC exports to EFTA countries," Weingard said. "After EFTA states join the EC, a 17% levy will be placed on Israeli exports to the EC and EFTA."

Meat and poultry exports grew 2% to \$23m. in the first six months of the year compared with the corresponding period last year.

In 1993, meat exports were \$44m. — with 42% going to the EC, 34% to EFTA states, and about 18% to the US.

There are about 80 meat producing factories here, employing some 8,500 workers, according to the Manufacturers Association.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (6.12.94)			
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.825	5.800	5.825
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	5.825	5.800	5.825
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.250	4.250	4.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	4.250	4.250	4.250
Yen (10 million yen)	3.000	3.250	3.500
	0.750	0.875	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (6.12.94)			
Currency basket	Set	Banknotes	Rep.
U.S. dollar	3.2520	3.2520	3.2520
German mark	1.5070	1.5070	1.5070
French franc	4.6722	4.6722	4.6722
Japanese yen (100)	0.5548	0.5548	0.5548
Dutch guilder	2.2821	2.2821	2.2821
Swiss franc	0.3590	0.3590	0.3590
Swedish krona	0.4377	0.4377	0.4377
Norwegian krona	0.4672	0.4672	0.4672
Denmark krona	0.6160	0.6160	0.6160
Finland mark	2.1614	2.1614	2.1614
Canadian dollar	2.5092	2.5092	2.5092
Australian dollar	0.6402	0.6402	0.6402
S. African rand	0.5276	0.5276	0.5276
Belgian franc (100)	2.7057	2.7057	2.7057
Austrian schilling (10)	1.3495	1.3495	1.3495
Italian lira (1,000)	—	—	—
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—
Sri Lankan pound	—	—	—
Irish punt	—	—	—
Spanish peseta (100)	—	—	—

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

For current information on potential growth securities in Israel and the U.S., call:

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ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

Polish hosts drop Hap TA

RICHARD ZAACKS

HAPOEL Tel Aviv played catch-up all night, but fell short at the final buzzer, going down 83-82 to hosts Nobles Wloclawia yesterday in a European Cup game.

The loss drops Hapoel to 1-2 in the 10-game final pool, while Wloclawia picked up its first win. Twice the Polish hosts opened up considerable leads, including a 20-3 run which took them into halftime with a 46-27 margin. Most of Nobles' firepower came from Igor Karchuk, who scored 18 first-half points.

The second Polish outburst lifted them to 72-56 with eight minutes to go in the game.

When all seemed lost, Zvi Scherf brought Mickey Berkowitz off the bench to rejuvenate his younger comrades. He didn't disappoint, lighting a fire in the Tel Avivans, who scored 14 unanswered points to narrow the margin to 76-75.

From there on, it was trade-off time, and Nobles answered every Tel Aviv basket with one of their own to win by a single point.

Tel Aviv started poorly, content to miss from afar rather than penetrate the lane. After eight minutes, the Poles built an 18-14 lead. However, Buck Johnson and Milton Wagner kept the visitors in the fray.

But then Karchuk began his one-man show, snagging offensive rebounds, setting up fast breaks and hitting from close range to give Nobles its halftime edge.

Next week, Hapoel hosts Italy's Benetton Treviso.

England collapse gives Aussies win

SYDNEY (Reuters) - An England collapse allowed Australia to secure a comfortable 28-run win in its World Series Cup day-night international yesterday.

England, chasing Australia's 224 for four from 50 overs, reached 100 without loss in the 25th over but the loss of vice-captain Alec Stewart for 48 sparked the touring side's slide.

Although captain Michael Atherton top-scored with a defiant 60, only Graham Gooch and Graham Thorpe of the later batsmen, with 21 apiece, reached double figures as they were bowled out for 196 in 48.3 overs.

Craig McDermott was Australia's most successful bowler with three for 34 from 9.3 overs. Off-spinner Tim May captured two for 35 and seamer Glenn McGrath took one for 22 in nine miserly overs.

Earlier, three Australians had passed the half-century after Mark Taylor had won the toss and batted in glorious, sunny conditions.

Taylor himself made 57 and his opening partner Michael Slater scored 50 with the pair adding 96 for the first wicket. Then, man-of-the-match David Boon returned to form with an unbeaten 64 in 64 balls, and his partnership of 92 in 103 balls with Michael Bevan (46) gave Australia's innings its late momentum.

Off-spinner Shaun Udal was the pick of England's attack with two for 37, his best figures in one-day internationals.

England's opening pair of Atherton and Stewart looked to have given their side the ideal platform for victory under lights, with Stew-



BIG BANG - England's Alec Stewart (r) collides with Aussie wicketkeeper Ian Healy in a run-out attempt yesterday.

art overcoming a slow start to play increasingly fluently.

They saw off the initial threat of leg-spinner Shane Warne, who was taken out of the attack after bowling two overs for thirteen, but it was Warne's fellow spinner, Tim May, who made the breakthrough.

May enticed Stewart to miscue a cut to backward point where Stuart Law took a good diving catch. Stewart thought he had played the

ball into the ground, but the Australians and umpire Darrell Hair disagreed.

May helped turn the game in Australia's favor with a tight display, also removing Graeme Hick, caught at cover by David Boon for six.

Atherton, who became increasingly bogged down, played across a ball from medium-pace Stuart Law to fall lbw.

While Gooch and Thorpe were

together, England still had high hopes of victory. However, when McDermott then returned to remove Thorpe, well caught by Michael Bevan at deep square leg, and Craig White, bowled for naught in one over, he tilted the game towards Australia.

Gooch, hitting out, fell to another good catch, this time by McDermott at long-on, to give Warne his one wicket of the innings and seal England's fate.

Baseball players 'won't back down'

ATLANTA (AP) - Roger Clemens, Cecil Fielder and 76 other striking Major League baseball players vowed Monday never to give in to owners - even if it means sitting out next season and possibly not playing again.

In the largest meeting of major leaguers since the strike began August 12, players opened a three-day session by reiterating their solidarity.

"We will never back down," Texas pitcher Kevin Brown said.

"There's a good chance at this point that we're not going to be playing baseball in 1995," Milwaukee pitcher Bob Scanlan said. "I have to make decisions based on this assumption."

Clemens and New York Mets pitcher John Franco said players also talked about the chance that the strike would wipe out their careers.

"We're prepared to do whatever it takes," said Clemens, Boston's three-time Cy Young Award winner.

Union head Donald Fehr said much of the week will be spent developing a counterproposal to the owners' payroll tax plan. The sides are scheduled to resume negotiations Friday in Rye Brook, N.Y., but some players said they do not think it made any difference what new offer was made.

"Whatever we come up with, I don't think it matters," Atlanta's Jeff Blauvelt said. "I think they've already shown that they've had in mind to impose the salary cap."

Owners, who postponed a meeting scheduled for Monday, are now planning to meet late next week, probably tomorrow in Chicago. They say they will impose their own system, which includes a cap and the elimination of salary arbitration, if there is no settlement by then.

Fehr said the owners' tax plan, which calls for an escalating rate, is "not likely to provide the framework to reach an agreement."

Owners also have talked about starting next season with replacement players.

Fehr and others again strongly disputed a notion recently floated by owners that a large number of Latin players would break ranks from the union.

Union leaders had little reaction to the announcement that Richard Ravitch, who had been management's chief labor negotiator for three years, would resign when his contract expired on December 31.

Raiders spoil Chargers' AFC West clinching party

SAN DIEGO (AP) - The Los Angeles Raiders spoiled San Diego's fun Monday night with Jeff Hostetler's 6-yard touchdown pass to Rocket Ismail with 7:23 left giving them a 24-17 victory over the Chargers.

The Chargers (9-4) needed a victory to clinch their second AFC West title in three seasons. The Raiders, meanwhile, needed a victory to stay alive in the scrambled playoff picture and joined four other AFC teams with 7-6 records.

A record crowd of 63,012 hoped to celebrate a division title for the Chargers, but the Raiders won at Jack Murphy Stadium for the fourth time in five years.

Ismail's second TD catch of the night came at the end of an 81-

yard, nine-play drive on which Hostetler completed passes of 31 and 16 yards to Tim Brown. Ismail also caught a 6-yard scoring pass from Vince Evans in the second quarter.

The Chargers began their final drive at their 8-yard line with 1:28 to play and got to the Los Angeles 48 before a holding penalty moved them back. Aaron Wallace sacked Stan Humphries to end the game.

The Chargers squandered two big opportunities in the second half.

Natrone Means' halfback pass from the Raider 19 sailed way over the head of wide-open Shannon Mitchell, and Means fumbled two plays later, with safety Eddie Anderson recovering at the 20.

Odense shocks Madrid

MADRID (Reuters) - Substitute Morten Bisgaard scored in injury time to give Odense of Denmark a shock 2-0 victory at Real Madrid that sent the Spanish giants crashing out of the UEFA Cup yesterday.

Odense, whose upset 4-3 aggregate victory - Real won the first leg 3-2 in Denmark - puts them in the quarter-finals, went ahead when striker Ulrik Pedersen lobbed Real goalkeeper Santiago Canizares in the 71st minute.

Bisgaard's winner stunned a 50,000 crowd in the Santiago Bernabeu stadium as Real's fans prepared to celebrate their side going through on the away goals rule.

In Parma: Parma (Italy) 4, Athletic Bilbao (Spain) 2 (2-0). Score: Parma - Gianluigi Zola (21), Diego Simeone (39) and Roberto Diniz (65); Athletic Bilbao - Oscar Valdes (56), Julien Guenzoni (75). Parma wins 4-3 on aggregate.

In Leverkusen: Bayer Leverkusen (Germany) 4, Schalke (Germany) 0 (4-0). Score: Leverkusen - Ralf Knappe (11), Andreas Thewissen (15), Frank Rost (23), Levent Kusen wins 4-1 on aggregate.

Clippers heading for shipwreck

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The pressure is really on now for the Los Angeles Clippers.

One more loss, and they've matched the worst start in NBA history.

One more loss, and they're worse than laughingstocks.

The Clippers dropped to 0-17 Monday night with a 115-83 loss to the Charlotte Hornets. Next up is the Milwaukee Bucks tomorrow, a game Los Angeles needs to win to avoid tying the Miami Heat's 0-17 start in its first season. That streak, ironically, ended when they beat the Clippers.

In the only other NBA games Monday night, New York beat Philadelphia 101-96 in overtime and New Jersey rallied to beat Chicago 99-94.

"Everybody's so frustrated. We all know the streak is hanging over us and we all don't want to be remembered that way," center Matt Fish said.

Larry Johnson scored 18 points

and Hersey Hawkins added 17 for the Hornets, who are 8-4 since their 0-3 start and have surrendered fewer than 100 points in a club-record seven straight games.

Hawkins powered Charlotte to a 37-22 lead through one quarter with 11 points. The Clips got as close as 10 points with seven minutes left in the first half, but they never got nearer as the Hornets broke it open with a 13-2 run and opened an 83-56 lead with 25 seconds left in the third quarter.

Lamond Murray scored 14 points for Los Angeles, which has dropped 20 straight games overall and 30 of 32 since March 25.

"Some of us are just gluttons for punishment," Charlotte center Robert Parish said with a chuckle after the game.

In his first season with the Clippers, coach Bill Fitch has climbed the 0-15 start he had with the expansion Cleveland Cavaliers as a rookie coach in 1970. He has gone on to coach more games than anyone in league history.

Sampras starts Slam with bang

MUNICH (AP) - The sight of Jaime Yzaga on the other side of the net brought back some unpleasant memories for Pete Sampras. He wanted to get rid of them fast and he did, in record time.

Sampras beat Yzaga 6-2, 6-4 yesterday to open the \$6 million Compaq Grand Slam Cup. The match lasted 58 minutes and it was the quickest victory in the history of the tournament, which is in its fifth year.

While the top-ranked Sampras hurried to get past the man who beat him at the US Open, Boris Becker, baffled his way from behind to outlast Wayne Ferreira, who beat Becker in the opening round here last year.

The German, cheered on by 11,000 fans from the city where he lives, won 5-7, 6-4, 6-3 in one hour, 54 minutes to advance to the quarter-finals.

Sampras was beaten by Yzaga in five sets in the Round of 16 at the US Open. Injured after winning Wimbledon, Sampras was unfit and had trouble finishing the match.

"It was an experience I'll never

forget, I hope it never repeats itself," said the American.

"When I saw the draw, I was thinking obviously this is a good opportunity to get back at him."

"The court here plays so fast that it really helps my game. I don't think it's fast. I think it's very, very, very fast."

"Every year I tell them it would be better tennis to watch and to play if they slow it down, but it seems like the same fast court," said Sampras, who won the inaugural tournament in 1990.

Sampras saved two break points in the opening game, but faced no other problems in the opening set against the Peruvian. He broke for a 3-1 lead and broke again to win the first set.

The American held again in the second set and won when Yzaga, serving to stay in the match, hit a backhand into the net. Sampras ended his career record against Yzaga at 3-3.

Sampras dominated the ATP Tour this year, winning two Grand Slam titles - the Australian Open and Wimbledon. He also clinched the ATP Tour World Champion-

ship last month in Frankfurt for his 10th title of the year.

With his two Grand Slam titles, Sampras will collect a \$500,000 bonus - \$250,000 for each title. The winner's purse here is \$1.5m and Sampras could clear \$2m.

The tournament invites players with the best records in the four Grand Slam tournaments in the world, and nine out of the top 10 players in the world are here. French Open champion Sergi Bruguera and US Open champion Andre Agassi play today.

For nearly two sets, it looked like Becker would make another early exit against the same South African opponent.

But a searing forehand down the line set up a break and set point for Becker and when Ferreira hit a backhand into the net, the German was back in the match.

A dispirited Ferreira dropped his first service game of the decisive set and never recovered, while Becker improved his record against the feisty South African to 5-1.

Everton on way up after downing Leeds

LIVERPOOL (AP) - Everton's one-time struggle in the Premier League looked a distant memory Monday as Joe Royle's team overpowered highly-placed Leeds 3-0 to move up to fifth from bottom.

Before Royle took over at Goodison Park a month ago, Everton had spent the first three months rooted to last place in the 22-club league.

Its latest victory, thanks to goals from Paul Rideout, Duncan Ferguson and David Unsworth, moved the club up two more places above Aston Villa and West Ham and out of the four-club relegation zone.

Leeds, league champs three seasons ago, remained in 8th place.

The Sports Pages are edited by Joe Hoffman

AC Milan, Barcelona, Utd look for quarter-final berths

LONDON (Reuters) - European Cup holders AC Milan and former winners Barcelona, Bayern Munich and Manchester United will be gunning for three remaining quarter-final places in the closing round of the European Champions' League today.

Milan must beat Austria Salzburg in Vienna in Group D to qualify and at least postpone the end-of-an-era obituaries already being penned after its 2-0 defeat to Velez Sarsfield of Argentina in the world club title match in Tokyo last week.

Barcelona should do enough in its Nou Camp stadium against surprise Group A

winners IFK Gothenburg to stay on course for a third final since 1992 when it won the trophy.

If the Catalans lose, they could relinquish the place to Manchester United - one point behind - should the English champions beat Galatasaray of Turkey at Old Trafford.

Bayern, three-times winners in the mid-1970s, need a significant improvement on their average form this season to beat Dynamo Kiev away for the other berth in Group B behind rampant Paris St Germain, the only side with a 100 percent record in

the European Champions' League.

Spartak Moscow, away in PSG, is hoping Bayern slip. If the two remain level on points, the Russians will go through by virtue of one more away goal in their direct confrontations, which were both draws.

Former champions Benfica, the Group C winners, and Ajax Amsterdam, whose performances in Group D have seen it emerge as a favorite, has avoided the nervous dash over the final hurdle by ensuring its qualification last month.

Hajduk Split of Croatia was also a surprise qualifier from Group C, the only pool

to be settled before today's games.

Salzburg has not lost at home in Group D, its one defeat coming at San Siro. The 3-0 victory stood for Milan although the Italians had the points docked after Salzburg's goalkeeper was hit by a bottle thrown from the crowd.

Barcelona's number three coach Toni Bruns said Gothenburg would be very hard to beat, even though the Swedes had nothing to lose.

But Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson believes the Catalans are too professional not to obtain what they need.

Quality Classifieds

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MONTHLY (24 insertions) NIS 491.40 10 words (minimum) each additional word - NIS 49.14

DEADLINES: Jerusalem: weekdays - 12 noon the day before publication; for Friday and Sunday - 6 p.m. on Thursday.
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Druse, Arab MKs: We'll bring down gov't

Six MKs make threat if Druse strike not resolved

THE government is in a race against time to defuse the 24-day Druse and Circassian strike before a no-confidence vote on the issue next week. Six members of the blocking majority yesterday threatened to vote with the opposition.

The defection of the six MKs would leave the coalition with 57 votes to 58 for the opposition, assuming that Shas abstains, as it almost always does in no-confidence votes on non-diplomatic issues.

Five of the six MKs belong to the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality and the Democratic Arab Party. They signed a letter addressed to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in which they informed him of their decision.

The sixth MK is Sallah Tarif, a Druse Labor Party MK. Tarif said he hoped a compromise solution would be found before next Monday's vote. If not, he said he would also vote against the government.

"When I compare the interest of my community, which is suffering very much, with that of preserving this government which isn't doing enough to end this wretched affair, I choose the community as my paramount interest and I have no other choice," said Tarif.

Deputy Agriculture Minister Walid Sadek criticized the DPPE and DAP MKs for not coordinating the move with him and Labor's other Arab MK, Deputy Health

DAN IZENBERG

Minister Nawaf Massalha. Sadek said he and Massalha would meet with Rabin to tell of the dilemma they found themselves in. However, he indicated that they would not vote with the opposition.

A meeting is due to be held today to discuss the crisis which will include Rabin, Police and Energy Minister Moshe Shohat, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, Labor faction leader Eli Dayan and Tarif.

The Druse are demanding that Shohat grant the Druse and Circassian communities NIS 250 million to the 1995 budget, which is a few weeks away from final approval. Shohat has allocated NIS 100m. to the Druse so far, and offered another NIS 30m. during a meeting earlier this week.

According to Tarif, the Treasury must compromise with the Druse and Circassians by granting them an additional NIS 100m.

Yesterday, a meeting of the Knesset Interior Committee with Shohat and Rabin - who is also the minister of interior - on the fiscal problems of the local councils turned into a heated shouting match with Druse and Circassian local leaders, after Shohat told them "the government has been more than fair with you."

Red-faced leaders stood up and started shouting at Shohat, and opposition and coalition MKs quickly got into the act. It took committee chairman Yehoshua Matza several

minutes to restore order.

Shohat said the extra NIS 30m. budget allocation was only part of the government offer. It had also promised to establish a committee including civil servants, representatives of the Union of Local Authorities, and Druse representatives to study a program to inject NIS 1 billion in long-term projects into the Druse and Circassian communities. Shohat said the committee would decide on the proposals by February 15 and he expected it to approve up to NIS 700m. worth of projects.

Rabin, who had been coaching Shohat during the finance minister's speech, banged his hand on the table and said: "The [Druse leaders] said they wouldn't stop their action unless the government gave them NIS 250m. in 1995. That's what the strike is all about."

Rabin also demanded to know why the Druse had been silent until now. He said previous Likud governments had made promises but given them nothing. "Progress was only made after we came to power," Rabin said.

Earlier, Rabin called on the Jewish local authorities to live within their means and stop piling up debts. "The level of services [provided by local governments] is a function of budget, just like it is for any government ministry," said Rabin. "Granted the desire to make the people happy, there is nevertheless a limit to what can be provided."



German President Roman Herzog (second from left) visits Yad Vashem yesterday, with his wife, President Ezer Weizman, and Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev (left).

German president: Our generation is guiltless

VISITING German President Roman Herzog said yesterday that his post-World War II generation could not be blamed for the Holocaust but that it must learn lessons from the past.

GREER FAY CASHMAN and news agencies

"The vast majority of my compatriots were born after the downfall of the Third Reich or were still children in the last years of Hitler's dictatorship," Herzog said in speech prepared for delivery at a state dinner hosted by President Ezer Weizman.

"This generation is free of guilt, but it is not free from the obligation to learn from what has happened," he said.

Herzog, born in 1934, said it was Germany's responsibility to keep alive the memory "of the darkest chapter in our history and to show the next generations what Germans were and of what human beings are capable."

Herzog said he understood concerns in Israel and elsewhere over Germany's unification, but that five years after the fall of the Berlin Wall most of these voices

have fallen silent.

"The world has taken notice that an increase in economic power and responsibility is not tantamount to delusions of grandeur or hunger for power," Herzog said.

He also addressed Israeli fears about growing right-wing extremism in Germany. "We understand these concerns very well and take them seriously. But such terrible incidents must not let us forget that Germany today is no longer the Germany of the 1920s, 1930s or even the 1940s," he said.

"It is a national and global task to fight against radicalism and racism wherever it raises its head," Herzog said. "We will play our part and fight against extremists offensively and with all permissible means."

Welcomed at Beit Hanassi by Weizman, Herzog was reminded that despite close relations, friendship and extensive cooperation, "the past cannot be forgotten and events that took place in Ger-

many and in Europe will always be before our eyes and in our minds."

Herzog, who since 1972 has been a full member of the Synod of the Protestant Church of Germany, said that as a committed Christian, it was "an uplifting experience to visit the Holy Land," but his stay here, he underscored, had "a highly political purpose."

Israel is the first country outside Europe which he has visited officially since taking office in July. Prior to the dinner, Herzog met in his sixth-floor suite at the King David Hotel with families of Israeli MIAs, and later held separate meetings with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who updated him on the peace process.

Batya and Chen Arad, the mother and brother of IAF navigator Ron Arad, sat with Herzog first. "We didn't hear anything new," said Chen Arad, who lambasted Peres for "running around

to raise funds for the PLO" instead of trying to resolve the issue of Ron Arad. "The peace process is on the way and nothing is happening," he said, adding that Syria was responsible for his brother's whereabouts.

While Chen Arad conveyed a sense of weary disillusionment, his mother, though tense and nervous, was more upbeat. "I'm always optimistic," she said.

The parents of Zacharia Baumei, Zvi Feldman and Yehuda Katz confirmed that Herzog had not brought them any news. They were, however, impressed with his sincerity. "He really wants to help," said Yona Baumei. "He'll do everything possible." Baumei was anxious to enlist the cooperation of the Federal German Republic in obtaining information the GDR had about the MIAs.

Pinna Feldman was also impressed with Herzog, noting that "he was very interested in what we had to say, and he took a list of all the places where we thought our boys might be."

Coalition threat rattles Labor

NO ONE in Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's close circle believes that the threat by Druse and Arab MKs within the coalition to vote no-confidence in the government next week will actually be carried out. But the threat is, nevertheless, one that sends cold shivers down the coalition's spine.

Even if the threat is not realized, Labor is still very shaken by the fact that it was at all made, because this is the first time any coalition or coalition-supporting MKs have talked about opposing the government. The real fear around Rabin is that the Druse and Arab MKs will teach the Labor hawks like Avigdor Kahalani that they too can use the no-confidence threat.

The primary assumption is that the MKs in question are playing a brinkmanship game, but they will

ANALYSIS

SARAH HONIG

not dare set foot beyond the brink. The Arab MKs from Hadas and Abdul Wahab Darawshe's Democratic Arab Party will never find a government more to their liking than the present one. Rabin's people say.

In the case of Druse Labor MK Sallah Tarif, it is believed that the possibility of knocking Labor from power will not sway him when such powerful pressures are imposed upon him from his own Druse community.

Still, Labor observers question whether he would risk his future career in Labor ranks. In the end, they suggest, it will be Tarif who will become the go-between

who will deliver the solution.

Rabin's people say that in the unlikely event that the Druse issue actually brings the government down, the result will be unpleasant but not catastrophic from Labor's point of view.

If the government falls, the president is likely to once more entrust Rabin with forming a government. Rabin will then be able to form a government more to his liking and effect the cabinet reshuffle that Shimon Sheves, the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, is said to recommend.

Those closest to Rabin say he would then be able to achieve this more painlessly than now, with the only negative effect of the government's fall being a nick to his prestige.

Yi'ud-Tsomet bitter feud takes over plenum

THE Knesset plenum became the private arena of the warring Tsomet and Yi'ud factions yesterday, as they pursued their bitter feud during a debate on a government bill paving the way for Yi'ud MKs Gonen Segev and Alex Goldfarb to join the government.

The debate was expected to continue throughout the night. The vote will be held today unless the opposition decides to turn it into a no-confidence motion, thereby postponing it until next Monday.

The Labor and Likud benches were almost completely empty during the opening hours of the debate, as if to say that the question of Yi'ud's joining the coalition was a nasty domestic squabble no one else wanted any part of.

Tsomet MK Moshe Peled, inspired by the hundreds of phone calls which poured into the Knesset two weeks ago during the debate on the stock market tax, appealed directly to the public watching on Channel 3. He announced

DAN IZENBERG

two phone numbers and asked viewers to call and express their opinions on Yi'ud's decision to join the government.

Peled called Yi'ud's move "the most obvious form of political whoredom." He also interrupted a speech by NRP MK Yitzhak Levy to tell the MKs with obvious delight that a private citizen had just messaged him to say Goldfarb did not stand a chance of being elected the representative of his street. Deputy Speaker Dov Shilansky reprimanded Peled for the unparliamentary act and shut off his microphone.

The Yi'ud MKs did not give as good as they got. Segev referred sarcastically to Peled as "the intelligent one, the member of the elite." Goldfarb, taking the microphone after a speech by Tsomet MK Eliezer Zandberg, referred to his former party colleague as "that nice boy."

Zandberg's anger was also palpable. The always-affable MK refused to respond to questions by Segev during his speech, talking over Segev's voice as if he weren't there.

During their speeches, Tsomet MKs Peled, Zandberg, Pini Badash, Haim Dayan and Segev reshaped their conflicting versions of the split in Tsomet and raised the old charges and countercharges.

Segev said that in return for joining the coalition, Yi'ud had gained two concessions from the government. He said the government had agreed to build a road directly linking the three Jewish settlements in northern Gaza to Israel, thus enabling the settlers to bypass the Erez Junction.

Yi'ud also forced the government to construct public buildings such as ritual baths and kindergartens in Judea and Samaria based on the same per capita criteria as in Israel.

Benny Begin asks A-G to probe Rabin role in Deri investigation

MK Benny Begin yesterday asked Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to investigate whether Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin knew about, or was behind, Shimon Sheves's alleged involvement in a proposal to change the police team investigating former interior minister Aryeh Deri.

DAN IZENBERG

In a letter to Ben-Yair, Begin wrote: "The [latest] information obliges the attorney-general to examine without delay the question of Mr. Rabin's involvement in the police investigation. It is not only the suspicion of a possible crime that makes it necessary to investigate, but also the concern that

powerful men like the prime minister are immune from investigation on a matter regarding which he and the director-general of his office resort to the right to remain silent."

Begin referred to a report in the daily *Ha'arets* last week which included segments of the transcripts of Sheves's questioning by officials of the State Comptroller's office.

Quoting from the article, Begin wrote that Sheves was asked whether he had told Rabin about the request to change the police investigation team. "I can't swear

that he wasn't," Sheves allegedly replied.

Begin also referred to Sheves's comments during an interview with Channel One reporter Nissim Mishal on November 29.

Sheves refused to reply to Mishal's question on the same matter, Begin wrote.

He continued that on Monday, when reporters repeated the question, Sheves allegedly told them: "I suggest you refer the matter to the prime minister." When Channel One reporter Karen Neubach asked Rabin the same question a few hours later, he declined to answer.

Military court: Change way of handling accidents

A SPECIAL military court yesterday proposed that cases involving training and other IDF accidents be removed from the legal domain, and handled through command and administrative channels by a committee composed of a major general and a retired civil judge.

This would be less cumbersome and facilitate better judgment, since procedures and punishments which may be legally appropriate in trials concerning fatal accidents are painful to families and perceived as not serving justice.

The proposition followed the sentencing of officers and soldiers found responsible through negligence for the death of IDF soldier Eliezer Tovim in 1992.

A lieutenant-colonel's promotion has been frozen for two years and a non-commissioned officer was demoted to private by the military court which convicted them in the case.

The incident occurred on August 27, 1992 when a squad commander's course unit was training near Nevatim in the Negev. During navigation exercises, Tovim entered a deserted, unmarked construction site and fell into a 50-meter deep pit, killing him instantly.

The special military court, headed by Judge Nili Peled, yesterday sentenced the squad commander school chief at the time, Lt-Col.

ALON PINKAS

Lior Shalev, to a three-month suspended sentence and decided to freeze his promotion for two years. Shalev is currently Northern Command operations officer.

"Despite his impressive record as an excellent officer, his failure was unequivocal in authorizing an exercise that contained inherent dangers even given the safety precautions in the exercise dossier," the judges said.

However, they said demotion, which was heavily considered, is too harsh a punishment. "This is a lieutenant colonel who is up for promotion to colonel. Demotion to major would effectively terminate his career,"

the decision said.

Other officers and NCO's were given harsher sentences, but all have already been discharged from regular service.

The squad commander, First Sgt. Dotan Ozeri, was demoted to private and received a four-month suspended jail term. First Lt. Roni Levy was demoted to sergeant and Lt. Yehuda Adar, the deputy company commander, was demoted to sergeant. Both also received three-month suspended jail terms.

After the sentencing, Naomi Tovim, Eliezer's mother said that she anticipated the punishments.

"It's my fault for sending my children to combat units. Those responsible for my son's death walked out free," she said.

First Knesset building to be turned into hotel

HAIM SHAPIRO

ISRAEL'S first Knesset building is to be turned into a three-star hotel, according to plans of the Tourism Ministry, which occupies the site.

According to the plan, the halls in which such luminaries as David Ben-Gurion, Moshe Sharett and Menachem Begin once waxed eloquent would be thronged with tourists, speaking English or Korean. The old Knesset dining room, where political deals were once hatched, would soon bustle with groups eating a three-course chicken dinner.

In a gesture of generosity, Tourism Minister Uzi Baram said yesterday that he was willing to immediately give up his office so that the building could be turned into a hotel as soon as possible.

The plans to transform the Frumin Building - the site of the first Knesset - and six other historic structures, were drawn up by architects Dan Pickler and David Kroyanker, who presented them to Baram yesterday. Another building with political associations which was included was the Eden Hotel on Hillel Street, once the favorite hostelry of MKs and ministers because of its proximity to the old Knesset, now used by the Absorption Ministry.

Technion scientist wins Marconi prize

DAVID RUDGE and Jerusalem Post Staff

A LEADING Technion scientist, Prof. Jacob Ziv, is to receive the Marconi Prize, one of the world's most prestigious engineering awards, it was announced yesterday.

Ziv, an Israeli-Prize laureate and two-time winner of the Israel Defense Award, will receive \$100,000 for the honor.

Technion President Prof. Zeev Tadmor said this was one of the highest honors ever awarded to an Israeli scientist.

Meanwhile, two California scientists will share the Wolf Prize in chemistry for their work in converting antibodies into enzymes, the Wolf Foundation announced yesterday.

Dr. Richard A. Lerner, 56, president of the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, and Prof. Peter G. Schultz, 38, of the University of California, Berkeley, will share the prize.

Winning cards and numbers - In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the jack of spades, jack of hearts, queen of diamonds, and nine of clubs.

In last night's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 3, 7, 11, 41, 47 and 48, and the additional number was 22.

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Meretz youth petition court for right to demonstrate at Netzarim

EVELYN GORDON

MERETZ'S youth movement yesterday petitioned the High Court of Justice for the right to demonstrate at Netzarim, charging that the army's refusal violates its freedom of expression and discriminates against it with respect to right-wing groups. The court will hear the case on Tuesday.

The petition, filed by attorney Eran Lev, explains that Meretz sees great importance in demonstrating against the Gaza settlements' continued existence now, because the question has become

one of public debate.

However, OC Southern Command Shaul Mofaz refused to okay the planned 100-person demonstration, citing security reasons but without providing details.

Since prohibiting a demonstration is a severe infringement on freedom of speech, the petition noted, the court has previously ruled that it is permitted only in the face of clear and present danger.

In this case, the petition said, the army has failed to show that a clear and present danger exist.

Poll: Only 34% think Rabin, Peres should accept Nobel

HERB KEINON

A GALLUP poll sponsored by Independent Media Review and Analysis found that only 34 percent of Israelis believe that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres should accept the Nobel Peace Prize this Saturday night.

This is a decline of over 7% since Gallup first asked the same question in mid-October, when 44.6% said they should accept the prize as scheduled.

While 17% believe that Rabin and Peres should reject the prize -

up from 14.9% - 39.5% maintain that they should ask for the presentation of the prize to be postponed until there truly is peace (up from 32.9%). The remaining 6% of the 519 Israelis surveyed had no opinion. The telephone survey has a standard margin of error of 4%.

Meanwhile, some 20 members of the Terror Victims Association flew to Oslo yesterday to demonstrate against Yasser Arafat receiving the Nobel Peace Prize along with Rabin and Peres.